the ſingle voice of the leader of their devotions. The Roman catholic chapel was enlivened by ſtrains of muſic, the tinkling of a ſmall bell, and a perpetual change of ſervice and ceremonial. A profound ſilence, and unvarying look and poſture, announced the ſelf-recollection and mental devotion of the quakers.

Mr Ambroſe led his ſon Edwin round all theſe different aſſemblies as a ſpectator. Edwin viewed every thing with great attention, and was often impatient to enquire of his father the meaning of what he heard; but Mr Ambroſe would not ſuffer him to diſturb any of the congregations, even by a whiſper. When they had gone through the whole, Edwin found a great number of queſtions to put to his father, who explained every thing to him in the beſt manner he could. At laſt Edwin ſaid, But why cannot all theſe people agree to go to the ſame place, and worſhip God the ſame way?—And why ſhould they agree? anſwered his father: Do not you ſee that people differ in a hundred other things? Do they all dreſs alike, and eat and drink alike, and keep the ſame hours, and uſe the ſame amuſements?—Aye, but theſe are things in which they have a right to do as they pleaſe.—And they have a right, too, to worſhip God as they pleaſe. It is their own buſineſs, and concerns none but themſelves.—But has not God ordered particular ways of worſhipping him?—He has directed the mind and ſpirit with which he is to be worſhipped, but not the particular form and manner. That is left for every one to chooſe, according as ſuits his temper and opinions. All theſe people like their own way beſt, and why ſhould they leave it for the choice of another? Religion is one of the things in which *mankind were made to differ*.

The ſeveral congregations now began to be diſmiſſed, and the ſtreet was again overſpread with perſons of all the different ſects, going promiſcuouſly to their reſpective homes. It chanced that a poor man fell down in the ſtreet in a fit of apoplexy, and lay for dead. His wife and children ſtood round him, crying, and lamenting in the bittereſt diſtreſs. The beholders immediately flocked round, and, with looks and expreſſions of the warmeſt compaſſion, gave their help. A churchman raiſed the man from the ground, by lifting him under the arms, while a diſſenter held his head, and wiped his face with his handkerchief. A Roman catholic lady took out her ſmelling-bottle, and aſſiduouſly applied it to his noſe. A methodiſt ran for a doctor. A quaker ſupported and comforted the woman; and a baptiſt took care of the children.

Edwin and his father were among the ſpectators. Here, ſaid Mr Ambroſe, is a thing in *which mankind were made to agree*.

From Mrs Barbauld's Evenings at Home.

AN ESSAY IN PRAISE OF THE FIRESIDE.

THE ancient poets, who are generally ſuppoſed to be the greateſt maſters of thought, attributed their happy exerciſe of it to their great patron the Sun; and that they might enjoy its kind influences with more purity, we find them quitting the ſmoke and riches of the city for ſome country retirement, where they might temper the directer rays with cooling breezes, ſhady groves, purling ſtreams, and melody of birds; where they might behold nature without diſguiſe, and copy her without interruption; where they might at once earn their laurels and gather them.

Our northern poets think themſelves warranted to follow thoſe great originals, who yet, from the difference of climate, &c. ſeem to ſtand in little need of ſuch cooling refreſhments. It would make one ſmile to ſee them, beyond even poetical fiction, invoking the gentle gales, while they are ſhivering under the bleak north-eaſt, or at beſt, when

Lull'd by ſoft zephyrs through a broken pane.

I have often wondered why our writers ſhould not ſometimes lay the ſcene of their poems, where, in reality, they took their riſe. The Fireſide is uſually capable of the moſt ſurpriſing imagery, by being diverſified (if the poet pleaſes) with ſerpents, crackers, rockets, and the like ſhort-

ſhort-lived gay creation of combuſtibles. Theſe, Mr Addiſon has ſomewhere obſerved, are abundantly capable of fable and deſign, and, to our modern poets, no leſs full of moral. Thoſe that have not Italian fancy for fine proſpects and latent ruins, may, by this means, perpetuate their names (like the wiſer Dutch) in ſome over-glowing night-piece. I myſelf, methinks, am enamoured with my ſubject, and ready, with Sir John Denham, to make it an example of juſt writing as well as the theme: For lo! my chimney affords me

A happy temperature of heat and light,
Warm without rage, and without glaring bright.

But I confine not my obſervations to the poets alone; I appeal to compoſers of all denominations, whether a briſk fire, and a clean ſwept hearth, has not brightened their imaginations, produced ideas like a kind of hot-bed, and made them amazed at their own fecundity.

The robuſt, the buſy, or unthinking part of the world, perhaps, are little ſenſible of the attractives of the hearth; but the men of ſpeculation, the only men of authority in the point before us, look upon it as their moſt comfortable retreat. Wea[illegible]d with the fatigues, or, what is worſe, impertinencies of the day, they retire to [illegible]eir own home, as the mind does into her own breaſt, and ſolace themſelves in the moſt cheerful part of it. Diſguiſe and reſtraint are here laid aſide, and the ſoul, as well as the body, appears the more beautiful for its diſhabille. That quinteſſence of earthly happineſs, which, in warmer climates, was expreſſed by ſitting under one's own vine, is with us more ſenſibly felt by one's own fireſide.

But the fireſide is not only a friend to a bachelor in ſolitude, it is noted to a proverb to be always ſo in company; it brings us to a nearer converſe with one another; by which means it promotes reconcilement between enemies, and mirth and ſociety between friends. There is a ſort of ſullenneſs in the tempers of Engliſhmen and Americans, which the fire ſoftens as it does metals, and renders them fit for uſe. How often has there been a room full of viſitants, who could not furniſh out an hour's converſation, for no other reaſon but becauſe they were at too great a diſtance from one another? The ſame aſſembly, brought into cloſer order, has proved excellent company; it has reminded me of the dogs in a chace (I hope I ſhall be pardoned the compariſon), who open with leſs frequency when they ſpread round the field at firſt ſetting out, but when the game is ſtarted, and they have all one point in view, they run united in full cry. While I am ſpeaking in praiſe of a ſedentary life, I am not afraid to draw compariſons from the pleaſures of the moſt active. The fireſide diſpels the gloomineſs of the brow, and throws upon the countenance not only the ruddineſs of youth, but its cheerfulneſs. Here I have ſeen a gay ſemicircle of ladies reſemble the beauties of the rainbow without its tears; and at other times a galaxy of white aprons more enlivening than all the blue in the brighteſt ſky. United with that ſex by the fireſide, how ſerene are our pleaſures, and how innocent! We have laughter without folly, and mirth without noiſe: Thereby reflecting the beams of the ſunny bank before us, we make the chimney corner, I will not ſay, in Cicero's expreſſion, the forge of wit, but in our modern philoſophical term, the focus of it.

ACCOUNT OF MADAME DU BARRE,

MISTRESS OF LOUIS XV.

THE memoirs of the life of a French courtezan, would be ill deſerving of notice, were they to conſiſt merely of a detail of ſucceſsful intrigues; but in the life of Madame du Barre we have it ſtrongly exemplified, that vice and intrigue, however ſucceſsful for a time, lead to infamy and diſgrace, and that retribution ſometimes takes place even in this world, long after the wickedneſs, which deſerved puniſhment, appeared to be forgot.

Madame du Barre was fond of being thought deſcended from an ancient noble family

family in Ireland, ſome of whom fled to France, during the troubles in that iſland; and this report was induſtriouſly propogated by her creatures: but the truth is, her deſcent, and even her birth, are too obſcure to be traced with any certainty, and no noble family in Ireland, or elſewhere, ever contended for the honour of her alliance, even when ſhe enjoyed the plenitude of her power. It is notorious, that, from the earlieſt age of womanhood, which is attained very young in France, ſhe was known, in Paris, under the denomination of "une fille de joye," a girl of the town; and from the following bon-mot of the Duke d'Enguin, it may be ſuppoſed in a very humble ſtation. Soon after her advancement at court, that nobleman was aſked if he knew her: "Oui," ſays he, "je l'ai connue à un *ecu*, à preſent elle eſt à un Louis:" a pun which will not eaſily bear tranſlating; "I have known her at a crown, now ſhe is at a Louis." Dumouriez, in his memoires, juſt publiſhed, ſpeaks of her with great contempt, as a ſtrumpet, whoſe favours any man might have ſhared, who had money to ſupply her avarice, which was extreme.

In the early part of her youth ſhe was eſteemed uncommonly beautiful; but at the period when ſhe was pitched upon to faſcinate the voluptuous monarch of France, the charms of her perſon had greatly ſuffered by the depredations of time, and the courſe of life to which ſhe had been accuſtomed from fourteen to thirty years of age. The lilies and roſes, implanted by the benevolent hand of nature, on her lovely features, had faded long before, under the pernicious breath of vice, and art now ſupplied the defect from the repoſitories of the perfumer. The remaining luſtre of a fine eye, joined to exact ſymmetry of ſhape, and an inexpreſſibly engaging air of addreſs, were, however, ſufficient external graces to engage the King's attention at the firſt interview, placed, as ſhe purpoſely was, in a ſituation where ſhe could not fail of attracting his notice, and thoroughly inſtructed in the part ſhe was to act, if his majeſty accoſted her.

It was cuſtomary for the King, in his hunting parties, to ſeparate from the court, and, attended only by one or two noblemen, to ride about the parks to view the company gathered upon theſe occaſions. Madame du Barre took her ſtation in a private receſs, where there was no danger of interruption, and the Duke d'Aguillon, who had concerted the whole ſcheme, conducted the King to the ſpot: the interview produced an aſſignation, and, at a private *petit ſouper*, the conqueſt was completed, by the vivacity of her converſation, the apparent amiableneſs of her temper, and elegance of taſte, which the King diſcovered in her, from which he promiſed himſelf a revival of that variety of enchanting amuſements, contrived by his former miſtreſs La Pompadour, to baniſh the melancholy horrors to which he was frequently expoſed, and to which his imbecility as a King, and his proffligacy as a man, greatly contributed, if they were not the original and only cauſe.

A treaty was ſoon ſet on foot, which ended in her eſtabliſhment at Verſailles, on her own terms; one of them was a title, and the King granted it, notwithſtanding the ſtrong repreſentations of the Duke de Choiſeul, his miniſter, againſt this imprudent ſtep. Having gained this point, the Counteſs du Barre kept no bounds; but, with unexampled arrogance, expected to be viſited by the Dauphin and Dauphineſs, the late unhappy King and Queen of France. The Dauphin, after ſome warm altercations with his grandfather, was obliged to ſubmit; but the Dauphineſs, with a noble greatneſs of ſoul, addreſſed the King, upon this occaſion, nearly in the following terms: "Sire, If I had been born your ſubject, I muſt have obeyed; but, as the daughter and ſiſter of an Emperor, your Majeſty will excuſe me." The ladies of the court, however, could not obtain any indulgence; they were obliged to ſhew every mark of reſpect to the new favourite, and one example of reſiſtance frightened them into conſtrained compliance.

The Ducheſs de Grammont, firſt lady of honour to the deceaſed Queen of Louis XV. being in a box at the opera, the

the Counteſs du Barre came in, and attempted to place herſelf by the Ducheſs; upon which, conſulting her own dignity, and her veneration for the memory of her late royal miſtreſs, now openly inſulted in the eyes of the ſpectators, ſhe deſired the Counteſs to retire, and, on her refuſal, the Ducheſs, politely curteſying to the people, who expreſſed univerſal applauſe, left the box and went into another. Du Barre, mortified at a ſcene ſhe was ill prepared for, carried her complaints to the King. That wretched driveller, whoſe crimes Providence permitted to be puniſhed in his innocent grandſon, immediately ſent a lettre-de-cachet to the Ducheſs, baniſhing her to her country-ſeat, at a great diſtance from Paris, during the King's pleaſure. But how will the world be aſtoniſhed to hear, that Du Barre, in the firſt years of her promotion, enjoyed a plenitude of power, unknown to La Pompadour, and which, with all her talents, ſhe never durſt attempt! Strange to relate, ſhe ſolicited and obtained a power to draw on the treaſury, under her own ſignature. As ſoon as the news of this extraordinary inſtance of the royal imbecility reached the ears of the Duke de Choiſeul, it is ſaid, he paſſionately exclaimed, "C'en eſt fait de moi.—It is all over with me." But that his adverſaries might not have an eaſy victory to boaſt of, notwithſtanding this preſage of his diſgrace, he put every ſtratagem in force to ruin their protectrix; and, among the reſt, he attempted to ſupplant the Counteſs by introducing a rival. This was the widow of an officer, who brought a petition to the miniſter, but finding her very handſome and ſprightly, the Duke referred her to the King, and gave her an opportunity of preſenting her perſon and her petition; but the former produced only a ſlight, if any effect; and the plan totally miſcarried, but not without being made known to the Counteſs, who now entered more deeply than ever into the politics of the times, with a determined reſolution to remove the two Choiſeuls; and in this ſhe ſucceeded, to the great diſhonour of the King, and to the regret of all the true friends of France. In the year 1771, while the neceſſary preparations were making in England to repel force by force, in caſe a negotiation for ſatisfaction ſhould prove ineffectual, it is confidently aſſerted, that the court of Spain actually intended to break with England, if France had been ready to ſecond her; and that the Spaniſh miniſtry applied to the court of Verſailles to know her intentions; to which De Choiſeul returned for anſwer, without the King's knowledge, "That the King, his maſter, would be always ready to ſupport the honour of the houſe of Bourbon, and to fulfil the ſolemn engagements he had entered into by the family compact." A diſpatch to this purport, which had been forwarded to the French ambaſſador at Madrid, was copied by a ſecretary in the intereſt of the Duke d'Aguillon, and tranſmitted home: this epiſtle was, by the chancellor, put into the hands of the Counteſs du Barre, with inſtructions to ſhow it to the King in one of his gloomy hours, and to paint to him, in the ſtrongeſt colours, all the horrors of war, to be commenced at a time when the finances were in great diſorder, the whole kingdom in a ferment concerning the parliaments, and the poor almoſt ſtarved for want of bread. At the ſame time, the Duke d'Aguillon circulated a general rumour without doors, that de Choiſeul was going to involve the nation in a war with England, on account of a miſerable iſland (Falkland's) in South America. The people caught the alarm, and, to teſtify their inclination to peace, the general cry at Paris was, "Point de guerre! Point de Choiſeul—No war, no Choiſeul."

(*To be continued.*)

ACCOUNT OF THE ERUPTION OF MOUNT VESUVIUS.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 701.

THE Abbé Tata, in his printed account of this eruption, has given a good idea of the abundance, the great weight, and glutinous quality of theſe aſhes, when he ſays that having taken a branch from a fig-tree ſtill ſtanding near the town of

Somma

Somma, on which were only ſix leaves, and two little unripe figs, and having weighed it, with the aſhes attached to it, he found it to be thirty-one ounces; when having waſhed off the volcanic matter, it ſcarcely weighed three ounces.

I ſaw ſeveral houſes on the road, in my way to the town of Somma, with their roofs beaten in by the weight of the aſhes. In the town of Somma, I found four churches, and about ſeventy houſes, without roofs, and full of aſhes. The great damage on this ſide of the mountain, by the fall of the aſhes and the torrents, happened on the 18th, 19th, 20th of June, and on the 12th of July. I heard but of three lives that had been loſt at Somma, by the fall of a houſe. The 19th, the aſhes fell ſo thick at Somma (as they told me there,) that unleſs a perſon kept in motion, he was ſoon fixed to the ground by them. This fall of aſhes was accompanied alſo with loud reports, and frequent flaſhes of the volcanic lightning, ſo that, ſurrounded by ſo many horrors, it was impoſſible for the inhabitants to remain in the town, and they all fled; the darkneſs was ſuch, although it was mid-day, that even with the help of torches it was ſcarcely poſſible to keep in the high road; in ſhort, what they deſcribed to me, was exactly what Pliny the younger and his mother had experienced at Miſenum, during the eruption of Veſuvius in the reign of Titus, according to his ſecond letter to Tacitus on that ſubject. I found, that the majority of people here, were convinced that the torrents of mud and water, that had done them ſo much miſchief, came out of the crater of Veſuvius, and that it was ſea water; but there cannot be any doubt of thoſe floods having been occaſioned by the ſudden diſſolution of watery clouds, mixed with aſhes, the air, perhaps, having been too much rariſied to ſupport them; and when ſuch clouds broke, and fell heavily on Veſuvius, the water not being able to penetrate, as uſual, into the pores of the earth, which were then filled up with the fine aſhes of a bituminous and oily quality, nor having free acceſs to the channels, which uſually carried it off, accumulated in pools, and mixing with more aſhes, roſe to a great height, and at length forced its way through new channels, and came down in torrents over countries where it was leaſt expected, and ſpread itſelf over the fertile lands at the foot of the mountain. From what I have ſeen lately, I begin to doubt very much if the water, by which ſo much damage was done, and ſo many lives were loſt during the eruption of Veſuvius in 1631, did really, as was generally ſuppoſed, come out of the crater of the volcano: ſentiments were divided then, as they are now, on that ſubject; and ſince, in all great eruptions, the crater of the volcano muſt be obſcured by the clouds of aſhes, as it probably was then, and certainly was during the violence of the late eruption, therefore it muſt be very difficult to aſcertain exactly from whence that water came. The more extraordinary a circumſtance is, the more it appears to be the common deſire that it ſhould be credited; from this principle, one of his Sicilian Majeſty's gardeners of Portici went up to the crater of Veſuvius, as ſoon as it was practicable, and came down in a great fright, declaring that he had ſeen it full of boiling water. The chevalier Magedonio, intendant of Portici, judged very properly, that to put an end to the alarm this report had ſpread over the country, it was neceſſary to ſend up people he could truſt, and on whoſe veracity he might depend. Accordingly, the next day, which was the 16th of July, Signor Guiſeppe Sacco went up, well attended, and proved the gardener's aſſertion to be abſolutely falſe, there being only ſome little ſigns of mud from a depoſition of the rain water at the bottom of the crater. According to Sacco's account, which has been printed at Naples, the crater is of an irregular oval form, and, as he ſuppoſes, (not having been able to meaſure it,) of about a mile and a half in circumference; by my eye I ſhould judge it to be more; the inſide, as uſual, in the ſhape of an inverted cone, the inner walls of which, on the eaſtern ſide, are perpendicular; but on the weſtern ſide of the crater, which is much lower, the deſcent was practicable,

ble, and Sacco, with ſome of his companions, actually went down 176 palms, from which ſpot, having lowered a cord; with a ſtone tied to it, they found the the whole depth of the crater to be about 500 palms. But ſuch obſervations on the crater of Veſuvius are of little conſequence, as both its form and apparent depth are ſubject to great alterations from day to day. Theſe curious obſervers certainly ran ſome riſk at that time, ſince which, ſuch a quantity of ſcoriæ and aſhes have been thrown up from the crater, and even ſo lately as the 15th of this month, as muſt have proved fatal to any one within their reach.

The 22d of July, one of the new craters, which is the neareſt to the town of Torre del Greco, threw up both fire and ſmoke, which circumſtance, added to that of the lava's retaining its heat much longer than uſual, ſeems to indicate that there may ſtill be ſome fermentation under that part of the volcano. The lava, in cooling, often cracks, and cauſes a loud exploſion, juſt as the ice does in the glaciers in Swiſſerland; ſuch reports are frequently heard now at the Torre del Greco; and as ſome of the inhabitants told me, they often ſee a vapour iſſue from the body of the lava, and taking fire in air, fall like thoſe meteors vulgarly called falling ſtars.

The darkneſs occaſioned by the fall of the aſhes in the Campagna Felice, extended itſelf, and varied according to the prevailing winds. On the 19th of June it was ſo dark at Caſerta, which is fifteen miles from Naples, as to oblige the inhabitants to light candles to mid-day; and one day, during the eruption, the darkneſs ſpread over Beneventum, which is thirty miles from Veſuvius.

The Archbiſhop of Taranto, in a letter to Naples, and dated from that city, the 18th of June, ſaid, "We are involved in a thick cloud of minute volcanic aſhes, and we imagine that there muſt be a great eruption either of Mount Etna, or of Stromboli." The biſhop did not dream of this having proceeded from Veſuvius, which is about 250 miles from Taranto. We have had accounts alſo of the fall of the aſhes during the late eruption at the very extremity of the province of Lecce, which is ſtill farther off; and we have been aſſured likewiſe, that thoſe clouds were replete with electrical matter: at Martino, near Taranto, a houſe was ſtruck and much damaged by the lightning from one of the clouds. In the accounts of the great eruption of Veſuvius in 1631, mention is made of the extenſive progreſs of the aſhes from Veſuvius, and of the damage done by the ferilli, or volcanic lightning, which attended them in their courſe.

I muſt here mention a very extraordinary circumſtance indeed, that happened near Sienna, in the Tuſcan ſtate, about eighteen hours after the commencement of the late eruption of Veſuvius, on the 15th of June, although that phenomenon may have no relation to the eruption; and which was communicated to me in the following words, by the Earl of Briſtol, Biſhop of Derry, in a letter dated from Sienna, July 12. 1794:—"In the midſt of the moſt violent thunder-ſtorm, about a dozen ſtones of various weights and dimenſions, fell at the feet of different people, men, women, and children; the ſtones are of a quality not found in any part of the Sienneſe territory; they fell about eighteen hours after the eruption of Veſuvius, which circumſtance leaves a choice of difficulties in the ſolution of this extraordinary phænomenon: either theſe ſtones have been generated in this igneous maſs of clouds, which produced ſuch unuſual thunder, or, which is equally incredible, they were thrown from Veſuvius, at a diſtance of at leaſt 250 miles; judge then of its parabola. The philoſophers here incline to the firſt ſolution. I wiſh much, Sir, to know your ſentiments. My firſt objection was to the fact itſelf; but, of this there are ſo many eye-witneſſes, it ſeems impoſſible to withſtand their evidence, and now I am reduced to a perfect ſcepticiſm." His Lordſhip was pleaſed to ſend me a piece of one of the largeſt ſtones, which, when entire, weighed upward of five pounds; I have ſeen another that has been ſent to Naples entire, and weighs about one pound.

(*To be concluded in our next.*)

A

A SHORT ACCOUNT OF A JOURNEY TO THE GLACIERES.

CONCLUDED FROM P. 703.

MR COXE and his company went almoſt to the end of the valley, and walked from five in the morning till two, when they returned to the cavern.

I returned much fatigued to Chamougny, employing three hours in the deſcent, which is far more difficult and dangerous than the aſcent, as the ſtones often roll down under the feet, and one could eaſily be brought along with them.

Beautiful tame goats abound in plenty on this mountain: Theſe animals ſkip and leap from one precipice to another, with an aſtoniſhing intrepidity.

I was ſurpriſed, at my coming into the valley, to find ſuch hot ſultry weather; fields covered with corn, and rich meadows: ſights that were a great contraſt to the frigid and barren mountain I had juſt quitted.

The curate in the village ſhewed me every ſort of politeneſs till we ſat down to dinner. He is a man who ſticks faſt to the principles of his church; and believes us proteſtants out of the right road. I had ſome inſtructing converſation with him about the formation of the Glacieres.

I then took a ride with the under curate (a well inſtructed young man) to the *Glacieres des Boiſſous*, four miles from Chamougny. We left our mules below, and went up through a wood, ſhagged with fir trees, and incumbered with great ſtones; ſome are of an immenſe bulk, and are brought down by a conſiderable thaw.

This Glaciere is very different from that of Montanvert, but not leſs extraordinary. It is full of ice-towers, ſome reſembling pyramids, others are in form of ſugar loaves. A ſudden chill in the circumambient air indicated our approach to ſome unuſual climate, and, being much heated by the fatiguing aſcent of this rock, we thought it moſt ſafe to return to our mules, and ride back to Chamougny.

On our coming to the valley, the two daughters of the wealthieſt farmer in the neighbourhood preſented us with an agreeable refreſhment of ſtrawberries and cream. One of them carried ſuch a native ſmile and bloom in her countenance, that ſhe reminded me of the poet's aſſertion:

——Lovelineſs
Needs not the foreign aid of ornament;
But is, when unadorn'd adorn'd the moſt.

I had the pleaſure to ſee Mr Coxe and his company at the inn, much fatigued with their excurſion in the ice valley; where they had traced the *Glacieres* almoſt to their very ſource.

The rain that fell that night occaſioned a great thundering noiſe by the melting and falling down of the ſnow from the mountains.

Vaſt lumps of ſnow are frequently carried off, and violently bolted from crag to crag by adverſe currents of air in thoſe aërial regions. The ſnow, thus detached, is then hurried down by its own gravity, and in rolling, encreaſes to ſuch a ſize, that, in its deſcent, it has been known to choak up all the paſſes, often filling whole valleys, and burying the unfortunate paſſenger underneath its accumulated maſs.

In the winter of 1769 and 1770 there happened a very frightful fall of ſnow; the effect of the air, preſſed by the fall of the maſs of ſnow, was ſo terrible, that it opened itſelf a paſſage through a wood of beech and fir trees which covered this declivity, and left not one tree ſtanding in its way. It ſtopped the courſe of the Giſre, that runs in the valley, overthrew on the other ſide a great number of trees, and demoliſhed many better barns than thoſe which remained covered, and cruſhed to pieces by this fall.

The inhabitants of this valley lead the noiſeleſs tenour of their way along the cool ſequeſtered vale of life, and are but little taken notice of; yet their retired and peaceful habitations afford the philoſopher an ample fund for ſpeculation. Let him learn here the true wants of man, and what a happy calm his ſou would enjoy, if he remained in the hands of nature. Intemperance diſplays not here its baneful effects, therefore theſe people know of none of thoſe diſorders which reign in luxuriant cities, and enjoy a healthy and vigorous conſtitution which brings them commonly to an old

In winter, they are almoſt buried in ſnow. The village of Chamougny lies at the foot of mount Blanc.

It would be impoſſible to give your Ladyſhip a complete idea of this immenſe and majeſtic mountain. The cruſt of ice that covers it almoſt from its foot, in the valley of Chamougny, to its ſummit, reſembles, in ſome places, a tempeſtuous ſea; in others, one ſhould think of ſeeing the ruins of towers and caſtles *entre-coup* with deep chaſms; in other places the mountain advances itſelf on the borders of ſome pointed rocks.

It is obvious to every perſon converſant in natural philoſophy, that if one could reach the height of twenty-four thouſand feet above the ſurface of the earth, he would always perceive, in all ſeaſons, and every where, the ſame degree of intenſe cold; not the leaſt difference would be obſerved, neither in ſummer nor winter. Near the equator, or the poles, the variations of heat and cold can be only felt near the ſurface of the earth, where the air, charged with vapours, admits not the rays of the ſun to paſs freely. Hence it comes, that the Alps in Switzerland, though not ſo high, are covered with ſnow and ice, in ſummer as well as in winter. This alſo is the plain reaſon why the ſnow of the upper region of mount Blanc very ſeldom melts, but commonly that of a lower height.

The Cordelieres, a chain of mountains in Peru, lie juſt under the equator, and yet the cold is as ſtrong there, as in the polar regions, though their height be not 24,000 feet. The Spaniards muſt remember the ſad experiments they made, when they attempted to paſs ſome of thoſe mountains*.

We reſolved to go through the rocks the following day to Martinach, in the Vallais, thirty miles from Chamougny, and paſs home to Geneva, on the other ſide the lake, through Ville.

Mr Coxe and his company were the firſt, I believe, who ventured to make this round on horſeback; we had ſeveral guides and baggage mules.

I ſhould not finiſh, if I attempted to deſcribe the different aſpects that nature wears in the rocks; let the poets and painters here kindle their imaginations.

The firſt place we ſtopped at was the ſource of the foaming river Arveron, which falls into the Arve at the foot of the ice valley of Montanvert, two miles from Chamougny. This torrent guſhes out with incredible rapidity from under an immenſe cavern of ice, that looked almoſt as tranſparent as cryſtal. There were ſeveral vaulted apertures one above the other, the laſt of which I thought to be at leaſt fifty yards high.

We went, one after another, upon a large ſtone, at the brink of the torrent, under theſe icy vaults, in order to take a tranſient ſurvey of this extraordinary place; but the conſciouſneſs of the peril did not permit us to enjoy long this ſight, becauſe our ears were continually ſtunned with the falls of ſome fragments of ice and ſnow ſevered from the adjacent mountains, with a crack reſembling a clap of thunder.

Theſe accidents often prove fatal to the inhabitants of this valley, and ſweep, ſometimes, men and cattle away. The mere flying of birds, or the running of Chamois, occaſion, ſometimes theſe dangerous falls of ſnow†.

After winding for ſome hours through a green valley, almoſt overſhadowed by the mountains, we purſued our courſe many miles on the banks of a rapid river, and found ourſelves ſoon again incloſed amidſt the intricacy of a thouſand pines of an amazing ſize, through which our horſes and mules now began to climb, by a rugged, ſtony, and narrow path, which ſcarce admitted the mules to paſs.

* If your Ladyſhip ſhould be curious to read an enlargement upon this ſubject, you may have recourſe to a late work, entitled *Hiſtoire Naturelle des Glacieres de Suiſſe*, in 4to. with many copper-plates; tranſlated from the German original of Mr Grouner, who has collected the ſubſtance of all the preceding authors upon this ſubject.

† It generally begins to ſnow afreſh towards the mountain tops, before the autumnal equinox, ſo that the acquiſition of ſnow and ice, during the winter months, is far more conſiderable, than the loſs ſuſtained from a diſſolution by rain water, or the preceding ſummer heats.

The

The rapidity of the torrents that run between the mountains, which ſometimes hang over the road in a tremendous manner, and the thickneſs of the fir trees with which they are covered, joined to the ſolitude of the place, afforded the muſing mind the moſt pleaſant meditations.

Upon viewing nature in this rugged and uncouth form, and not to feel a fearful emotion, is to be the perſon of whom Horace ſays,

> Should the whole wreck of Nature break;
> In ruin and confuſion hurl'd,
> He, unconcerned, would hear the mighty crack,
> And ſtand unmov'd amidſt a falling world."

This Sylvan ſcene retained its ſolemnity the whole way to Trian; a few cottages ſcattered about, amidſt the wilds of the Alpine diſtrict, which lies almoſt in the heart of that range called the *Monts Maulits*, or, accurſed mountain*. After having refreſhed ourſelves with a glaſs of wine, and ſome bread and cheeſe, we continued our journey, climbing over the broad back of another mountain, from the top of which we had a beautiful proſpect, ſeeing great part of the Vallais, and the Rhone winding its ſerpentine courſe through the middle.

The weather, which had been the whole day very rainy, now began to clear up, as we deſcended the mountain.

Between nine and ten we arrived at the foot of it, at a town called Martinach, where we met with a very good inn.

We proceeded on our road the next morning, through a very pleaſing, cultivated valley, having the rapid Rhone on our right, and rocks cloſe on our left, with the fine fields bordered with mountains at about two miles diſtance.

We could not refrain from the pleaſure of dwelling a little on one of the moſt capital cataracts we had ſeen.—It fell perpendicularly near us, in the form of a vaſt bruſh of water, of at leaſt 250 feet in length, and almoſt wet us to the ſkin as we paſſed, by the flying particles of water.

St Maurice is the laſt town in the Vallais; the bridge over the Rhone here divides this territory from the canton of Bern. The rocks and mountains diſappear the nearer one approaches the lake, which is not viſible, till it preſents itſelf ſuddenly in almoſt its whole extent. The ſight is then agreeably ſurprized with the fine vineyards, villages, and country houſes that border the lake from Villeneuve to Vevais. It is near this firſt place where the Rhone throws itſelf into the lake.

The road from Villeneuve to Veva, is is exceeding agreeable, and goes always through vineyards that come cloſe to the lake.

The walls of this pretty town are waſhed by the pellucid waves of this beautiful lake. The mountains and rocks in Savoy, the other ſide of the water, make a fine appearance. The road from this town to Lauſanne continues on the elevated, fruitful, banks of the lake; and ſurpaſſes, for pleaſantneſs, the moſt I have ſeen in any part of Switzerland, Germany, France, the Netherlands, or even England.

It would be needleſs to deſcribe to your Ladyſhip the beautiful environs of this little republic within the limits of France, Savoy, and Switzerland, your Ladyſhip enjoying daily that enchanting proſpect.

Lauſanne lies almoſt at the foot of mount Jura, and is one mile from the lake. The cathedral may be reckoned one of the largeſt proteſtant churches in Europe. It ſtands in the higheſt part of the town, upon a hill; there is a fine terrace round it, from whence almoſt the whole lake may be viewed, with the mountains of Savoy on the oppoſite ſide, and the rich country of Geneva, thirty miles in extent.

Upon reading, in this church, the ſeveral inſcriptions on the monuments of the illuſtrious dead, who once ſhone in either the learned or military world, theſe lines of Gray aroſe in my mind:

> The boaſt of Heraldry, the pomp of Power,
> And all that Beauty, all that wealth e'er gave;
> Await alike, th' inevitable hour:
> The paths of Glory lead but to the grave.

* This place is the firſt in the *Pays de Vallais*.

CEREMONY OF A GENTOO WOMAN DEVOTING HERSELF ON THE FUNERAL PILE OF HER HUSBAND.

THE place fixed upon for this tragic ſcene, was a ſmall iſlet on the bank of one of the branches of the river Canery, about a mile to the northward, of the fort of Tanjore.

When I came to the ſpot, I found the victim, who appeared to be not above ſixteen, ſitting on the ground, dreſſed in the Gentoo manner, with a white cloth wrapped round her, ſome white flowers like jeſſamins hanging round her neck, and ſome of them hanging from her hair. There were about twenty women ſitting on their hams round her, holding a white handkerchief, extended horizontally over her head, to ſhade her from the ſun, which was exceſſively hot, it being then about noon.

At about twenty yards from where ſhe was ſitting, and facing her, there was ſeveral Bramins buſy in conſtructing a pile with billets of fire wood: the pile was about eight feet long and four broad. They firſt began by driving ſome upright ſtakes into the ground, and then built up the middle to about the height of three feet and a half with billets of wood.

The dead huſband, who, from his appearance, ſeemed to be about ſixty years of age, was lying cloſe by, ſtretched out on a bier made of bamboo canes. Four Bramins walked in proceſſion three times round the dead body, firſt in a direction contrary to the ſun, and afterwards other three times in a direction with the ſun, all the while uttering incantations; and at each round or circuit they made, they untwiſted, and immediately again twiſted up the ſmall long lock of hair which is left unſhaven at the back of their heads.

Some other Bramins were in the mean time employed in ſprinkling water out of a green leaf, rolled up like a cup, upon a ſmall heap of cakes of dry cow dung, with which the pile was afterwards to be ſet on fire.

An old Bramin ſat at the north-eaſt corner of the pile upon his hams, with a pair of ſpectacles on, reading, I ſuppoſe, the Shaſter, or their ſcriptures, from a book compoſed of Cajan leaves.

Having been preſent now nearly an hour, I enquired when they meant to ſet the pile on fire: they anſwered in about two hours. As this ſpectacle was moſt melancholy, and naturally ſtruck me with horror, and as I had only gone there to aſſure myſelf of the *truth of ſuch ſacrifices being made*, I went away towards the fort. After I was gone about five hundred yards, they ſent ſome one to tell me they would burn immediately; on which I returned, and found the woman had been moved from where ſhe was ſitting to the river, where the Bramins were bathing her. On taking her out of the water they put ſome money in her hand, which ſhe dipped in the river, and divided among the Bramins: ſhe had then a yellow cloth rolled partially round her. They put ſome red colour, about the ſize of a ſixpence, on the centre of her forehead, and rubbed ſomething that appeared to me to be clay. She was then led to the pile, round which ſhe walked three times as the ſun goes: ſhe then mounted it at the north eaſt corner, without any aſſiſtance, and ſat herſelf down on the right ſide of her huſband, who had been previouſly laid upon the pile. She then unſcrewed the pins which faſtened the jewels or ſilver rings on her arms: after ſhe had taken them off, ſhe ſhut them, and ſcrewed in the pins again, and gave one to each of two women who were ſtanding: ſhe unſcrewed her ear-rings and other toys with great compoſure, and divided them among the women who were with her. There ſeemed to be ſome little ſquabble about the diſtribution of her jewels, which ſhe ſettled with great preciſion; and then falling gently backwards, pulled a fold of yellow cloth over her face, turned her breaſt towards her huſband's ſide, and laid her right arm over his breaſt; and in this poſture ſhe remained without moving.

Juſt before ſhe lay down the Bramins put ſome rice in her lap, and alſo ſome into the mouth and on the long grey beard of her huſband: they then ſprinkled ſome water on the head, breaſt and feet of both, and tied them gently toge-

ther round the middle with a ſlender bit of rope: they then raiſed as it were a little wall of wood length-ways on two ſides of the pile, ſo as to raiſe it above the level of the bodies; and then put croſs pieces ſo as to prevent the billets of wood from preſſing on them: they then poured on the pile, above where the woman lay, a potful of ſomething that appeared to me to be oil; after this they heaped on more wood, to the height of about four feet above where the bodies were built in; ſo that all I now ſaw was a ſtack of fire wood.

One of the Bramins, I obſerved, ſtood at the end of the pile next the woman's head, and was calling to her through the interſtices of the wood, and laughed ſeveral times during the converſation. Laſtly, they overſpread the pile with wet ſtraw, and tied it on with ropes.

A Bramin then took a handful of ſtraw which he ſet on fire at the little heap of burning cakes of cows dung: and ſtanding to windward of the pile, he let the wind drive the flame from the ſtraw till it catched the pile. Fortunately, at this inſtant, the wind roſe much higher than it had been any part of the day, and in an inſtant the flames pervaded the whole pile, and it burnt with great fury. I liſtened a few ſeconds, but could not diſtinguiſh any ſhrieks, which might perhaps be owing to my being then to windward. In a very few minutes the pile became a heap of aſhes.

During the whole time of this proceſs, which laſted from firſt to laſt above two hours before we loſt ſight of the woman by her being built up in the middle of the pile, I kept my eyes almoſt conſtantly upon her; and I declare to God that I could not perceive, either in her countenance or limbs, the leaſt trace of either horror, fear, or even heſitation: her countenance was perfectly compoſed and placid; and ſhe was not, I am poſitive, either intoxicated or ſtupified. From ſeveral circumſtances, I thought the Bramins exulted in this helliſh ſacrifice, and did not ſeem at all diſpleaſed that Europeans ſhould be witneſſes of it.

Campbell's Journey over land to India.

REVIEW OF NEW BOOKS.

The real Origin of Government. By John Whitaker, B. D. Rector of Ruan Lanyhorne, Cornwall. 8vo. Stockdale.

THE following quotation, regarding the divine origin of government, will make the reader acquainted with the political opinions of this author, and the nature of his work.

ON this everlaſting pillar of truth, has God founded the government of man. The pillars of the earth *may* tremble, and ſink under their load; but the pillar of government never can. God has fixed *theſe* for a ſeaſon only, but he has pitched *this* for an eternity. The world will paſs away at its allotted hour, but man will not paſs with it. The world will be throughly polluted with its ſins, be purified by fire, and then be reduced into its original chaos again, that ſtorehouſe of unſtained matter, which is kept probably for the formation of new worlds; while man will migrate to a ſuperior region of exiſtence there incorporate with the angels, and there live with them in ſubjection to authority ſtill. Man is therefore habituated equally to ſubjection, as he is to religion, here; that he may learn the habits of religion and ſubjection together, to qualify him for the devoutneſs and the obedience, which will be neceſſary for his happineſs on his tranſlation to Heaven.

In this view of our race, from the ſteady, the ſolar light of God's own hiſtory; how muſt we ſtand amazed at all the theories of government, that were floating, like ſo many motes in the ſun's beam, among the wretched children of heatheniſm! Ignorant of the true origin of man, as well as of the true nature of God, they fancied, in their blindneſs to facts, that mankind were born originally in a large ſociety together, *we* know they were only a ſingle pair; that all *thoſe* were equal in nature and appointment, when *we* know one even of the two have been made the ſuperior of the other; and that government was therefore the poſterior refinement of man, when *we* know it was the original inſtitution

inſtitution of God. But how much more muſt we be amazed, at all theſe theories being adopted by Chriſtians, and the darkneſs of heatheniſm courted in preference to the light of revelation! Yet ſuch has been the caſe, even in *this* illuminated part of Chriſtendom. We are even now ſo familiarized to the folly, of ſuppoſing, with the heathens, all government to be founded upon the will of man, all men to have been originally in a ſtate of independent equality, and all to have agreed at laſt in erecting, what God had neglected to erect for them, a form of polity; that we conſider not a moment the ſottiſhneſs thus imputed to God, the lie thus given to the hiſtory of God, and the contradiction thus made to the moſt obvious and moſt general of all incidents in our nature. In a part much more wiſe in itſelf, and much more beneficent to man, we there ſee him as he is, the Father and the Friend of man; even in man's *un*-fallen ſtate providing a government for him, as he had provided for the angels before; in his very firſt couple, ſecuring the authority of one by requiring the obedience of the other; and, in their poſterity afterwards, binding firmly by the ſtrongeſt cement in the world, by the very weakneſs of the infant, and the very vigour of the adult, by the very characters of child and parent, the obedience of *that* to *this*. In the mirror of life before us, we equally ſee man coming into the world, in the neceſſary ſubjection of a child to a parent; we alſo ſee man growing up to maturity in a natural reverence for *him*, to whom (under God) he owes his exiſtence at firſt, from whom he has the comforts of nouriſhment in infancy, and at whoſe hands he ſtill expects the requiſite proviſion or direction, for his ſettlemens in life. Yet, as if all this was merely a viſion, as if the ſcripture exhibited no ſuch doctrines to our minds, as if reality preſented no ſuch facts to our eyes; we have ſeen, and we daily ſee, ſpeculation advanced concerning government, all ſuppoſing it to be founded upon compact, to be wholly a late operation of man upon earth, to be entirely an improvement (may I write the words with irreverence?)—an improvement upon the bungling plan of God. We *may* wonder at the Papiſt, who, with the commandment againſt praying to any but God directly before his face, ſtill continues to pray to other beings. But we *muſt* wonder at Proteſtants, thoſe beſt of Proteſtants, the members of the church of England, at men in general profeſſing to try every doctrine by the teſt of ſcripture; fabricating even ſyſtems of government, and preaching even principles of obedience, upon conceits purely heatheniſh, upon fancies directly oppoſed by ſcripture, and upon ſurmiſes contrary to the very tranſmiſſion of mankind by generation. Man comes into the world, man has always come, in the obedience of a child to a parent, in the ſubmiſſion of a ſubject to a ſovereign; and God would not ſuffer even one ſlight loop-hole of diſobedience to eſcape him, in the mixt, the ſeemingly equal authority of huſband and wife. He cloſed up this very loop-hole, by placing the wife below the huſband; and then made the children of both ſubject relatively to both, by the very neceſſities of their nature. He even added in his *ſecond* code of Revelation expreſsly, that "there is no power but of God, the powers that be are ordained of God," Rom. xiii. 1. He thus declared, as with a voice from heaven, legal in its commencement, or not encroaching upon any legal right in its continuance, participates in the general appointment of Providence, ſhares in the general ſanctions given by Providence to government, and is entitled, in the name Providence, to the general obedience of its ſubjects.

Narrative of the Dangers to which I have been expoſed ſince the 31ſt of May 1793; with Hiſtorical Memorandums. By John Baptiſt Louvet, one of the Repreſentatives proſcribed in 1793, now Preſident of the National Convention. 8vo. 3s. Johnſon.

IT is ſcarcely poſſible to peruſe the adventures of any perſon without becoming intereſted for him, though one may grant him a very ſmall portion of eſteem, or entirely diſapprove of his principles and conduct. The continued dangers and repeated eſcapes of the ſame being, purſued by ill-fortune, and perpetually expoſed to hardſhips and ſufferings, inſenſibly familiarize us with him, till we feel a ſpecies of friendſhip in the concern we undergo for him.

As a man, M. Louvet, as far as we may give implicit credit to his narrative, appears to poſſeſs ſome very eſtimable qualities; of which the moſt prominent are fortitude, and a preſence of mind which never forſakes him in the moſt difficult and trying circumſtances. His morals appear exceedingly relaxed and uncertain, ſuch

as

as one would expect from a pupil of Jean Jacques Rouſſeau, and the general diſſoluteneſs of manners which redoubled with his philoſophy in France. The wife of M. Louvet, who ſhares many of his dangers, was married to him under the preſſure of ſome of them, with no other ceremonies than the preſence and teſtimony of ſome of his fellow-ſufferers to the contract. It appears alſo, that this lady has forſaken another huſband for the affection ſhe bears Louvet; and probably there was few ceremonies, and fewer witneſſes to the divorce or elopement. To ſay that ſuch a woman may not ſtill be poſſeſſed of ſome good or amiable qualities, would favour of rigour and auſterity; but undoubtedly he ſtrives in vain to communicate the admiration he feels for her to his readers, or to awaken all the ſenſibility of his own boſom in favour of a perſon we cannot but condemn. It is in vain that he tricks her out in the flowers of his partial fancy, or inveſts her with the name and title of Lodoiſka, the amiable heroine of one of the epiſodes in his romance. Fortunately we cannot long or ſeriouſly be intereſted for any thing but virtue; but we may deplore the general depravity and corruption of a country, where one of its leaders does not ſcruple to publiſh his ſcandalous amours; and where the men of letters both inculcate and vindicate, by precepts and example, that diſſoluteneſs of manners which they have found it too eaſy to naturalize amongſt a turbulent and intoxicated people. We ſhall endeavour to make our readers acquainted with M. Louvet in his own words, as they are given us by his tranſlator.

"*Grottos of St. Emillion in the Gironde, the beginning of Nov.* 1793.

Every thing that could impart happineſs to a man of ſenſibility, with a taſte for ſimple enjoyments, was mine before the revolution. I lived in the country to which I was paſſionately attached. There I compoſed works, the ſucceſs of which had begun what I called my little fortune. In reality it was little, and my ambition was the ſame. Deeply enamoured of independence, at an early period I had learnt that the ſole mean of ſecuring its enjoyments was to narrow the ſphere of my wants as much as poſſible. Luxury therefore, the offſpring of the coquetry of my early youth I had diſcarded; and I had embraced ſobriety, neceſſary to the health of every one, ſtill more neceſſary to the labours of a man of letters. I had ſo limited my expences, that eight hundred livres (33l. 6s. 8d.) a-year were ſufficient to anſwer them. The firſt ſeven volumes of my firſt work, printed on my own account, produced me a much larger income.

Shut up in a garden, a few leagues from Paris, out of the reach of impertinent viſitors, I wrote, in the Spring of 1789, ſix ſmall volumes, which accelerating alſo the ſale of the former, were to conſtitute the baſis of my little fortune. They would have produced me thrice the profit, but for thoſe great events which, in the courſe of that year, attracted the attention of all: thus ſtifling works of mere amuſement, and facilitating the operations of thoſe piratical bookſellers who live on the ſpoils of authors. Apropos of my little book: I hope every impartial perſon will do me the juſtice to confeſs, that, amidſt the levities with which it is filled, a great love of philoſophy will be found; at leaſt in the ſerious paſſages, where the author himſelf comes forward; and more eſpecially republican principles, rare as they were at the period when I wrote.

We had ſome cauſe to diſlike a revolution which, if it did not deſtroy our hopes, muſt at leaſt retard their accompliſhment. But it was juſt, it was lovely. How could we avoid being enamoured with it, even though it wounded our deareſt intereſts! I have only to write another work, ſaid I to the friend of my heart, and purſue my labours a little longer. If the delay of our happineſs produce the happineſs of mankind, ſhall we not find pleaſure in the ſacrifice? My miſtreſs applauded my ſentiments.

What a woman! what generoſity! what greatneſs of mind! Well was ſhe worthy of the immortal paſſion with which ſhe had inſpired me. We had been as it were brought up together. Our love was born and had grown with us. But when ſhe had entered her ſixteenth year, ſhe had been obliged to give her hand to a man of wealth, and he carried her three hundred miles from me, Six years after ſhe returned. At this period, beholding each other again, that paſſion which will only die with us, diſplayed itſelf to us in all its force. Alas! perhaps it prepares for my beloved many dangers and many misfortunes."

The affair of the 10th of March is ſo curious and intereſting upon a variety of accounts, that we ſhall preſent it to our readers. It is extraordinary that Louvet ſhould charge Dumourier with being one of the chiefs of this conſpiracy.

"But

"But what occaſioned the failure of that dreadful plot of the 10th of March, well laid as it was? A concurrence of the moſt ſingular accidents: and, as the reader proceeds, he will be aſtoniſhed in this inſtance alſo at the great effects produced by little cauſes.

"That I might be near the Convention, I had taken a lodging in Honore-ſtreet, a very little above the Jacobins. About nine in the evening my Lodoiſka, who had gotten home and was expecting me, heard a frightful tumult and horrible cries. Ever anxious for me, who with moſt of my friends had lived for three months ſurrounded with dangers, conſtantly purſued, threatened, inſulted, obliged to carry arms for my defence, and forced to keep every night from home, my dear wife came down, and went on till ſhe came into the galleries of the ſociety, from which the noiſe iſſued. She heard a thouſand ſlanders, a thouſand horrible ſpeeches uttered. She ſaw the lights extinguiſhed and ſabres drawn. She came out with an enraged multitude, who went to the Cordeliers for auxiliaries, thence to return forthwith and attack the Convention. Lodoiſka juſt came back when I returned. Immediately I flew to Pethion's, where ſome of my friends were aſſembled. They were converſing calmly on certain decrees that were to be paſſed in the courſe of a few weeks. God knows how difficult I found it to rouſe them from their ſecurity. At laſt I prevailed upon them to refrain from appearing at the meeting already begun, and to aſſemble, with all the principal perſons proſcribed, in an hour's time, in a houſe where the conſpirators would not expect to find us. I then repaired with ſpeed to the meeting, where I found Kervelegan, deputy from Finiſterre. This brave man haſtened to the farther part of the ſuburb St Marceau, to a battalion from Breſt, which very fortunately arrived at Paris a few days before, and had been detained. This battalion remained all night under arms, ready to march to our aſſiſtance on the firſt requeſt, or the ſound of the alarm bell. In the mean time I went from houſe to houſe, to acquaint Valaze, Buzot, Barbaroux, Salle, and ſeveral others. Briſſot went to inform the miniſters of what was paſſing; and the miniſter at war, the brave and unfortunate Bournonville, having ſcaled the walls of his garden, had already joined ſome of his friends, with whom he formed a patrole. After a ramble of two hours, in a dark night, and in the midſt as it were of my aſſaſſins, I arrived at the place of rendezvous. Pethion was wanting. He was much in danger, however, if he remained at his own houſe. I returned to ſeek him, and a ſingle incident that paſſed will depict his character. As I was preſſing him to come with me, he went to the window, and opened it; then having looked at the weather, he ſaid, "it rains; there will be nothing done." Notwithſtanding all I could ſay, he perſiſted in ſtaying at home.

It was not the rain that ſtopped the conſpirators, but the two circumſtances of our abſence and the information given to the battalion of Breſt. When they knew that the decree of impeachment which they would have obtained, could not be followed up by the ſudden arreſt of their victims, they heſitated; and their courage, always ſo mighty when nothing was to be done but aſſaſſinate, failed them at once when they found they muſt fight. They were only three thouſand, the men of Breſt were four hundred; could they venture to riſk an attack? No: they durſt not."

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

EDINBURGH.

An alarm to Britain! Or, an Inquiry into the Cauſes of the Rapid Progreſs of Infidelity in the Preſent Age. By John Jamieſon, D. D. F. A. S. S. Miniſter of the Goſpel, Forfar. 1s. 8d. ſewed. *Bell & Bradfute.*

The Fear of God, Reaſonable in itſelf, and beneficial in its Conſequences: A Sermon, Preached before the Corps of Aberdeen Volunteers, in the Weſt Church of Aberdeen, on Sunday the 2d day of Auguſt 1795—to which are ſubjoined, the *Prayers and Addreſſes* delivered at the Conſecretion of their colours. By James Shirreſſs, D. D. Senior Miniſter of Aberdeen, and Chaplain to the Corps of Volunteers. Inſcribed to his Grace the Duke of Gordon. 1s. *A. Shirreſſs.*

A Treatiſe on the Scurvy: Containing a New, an Eaſy, and Effectual Method of Curing that Diſeaſe; the Cauſe and Indications of Cure, deduced from Practice; and Obſervations connected with the Subject. *With an Appendix,* Conſiſting of Five Letters, reſpecting the Succeſs of a New Antiſcorbutic Medicine. By David Paterſon, Surgeon in the Royal Navy. *Manners & Miller.*

An Addreſs to the Legiſlature, the Landed Intereſt, and his Majeſty's Boards of Exciſe in England and Scotland, on the Diſtillery Laws. 6d. *Simpſon.*

POETRY.

POETRY.

FOR THE SCOTS MAGAZINE.

ON MICHAEL BRUCE,

THE SCOTS POET*.

HOW oft relenting to the vernal ray,
When trembling Nature tends the landscape gay;
New Winter from the pole with ruffian storms,
The spring and all its lovely scenes deforms,
Blasts the untimely blossoms of the bowers,
And sweeps the infant family of flowers.
Ah! Daphnis, such the killing blast of time,
That marr'd the golden promise of thy prime,
Thy vernal bloom, to one short hour confined,
And ever cast in shades the morning of thy mind.
O'er thy lone couch, no love devoted train,
Hung to diffuse the lenitives of pain.
No soothing accent hush'd thy mourning cries,
No friendly features met thy dying eyes;
Far from thy friends, from each connection dear,
No form congenial sheds the tender tear.
'Twas thine, the orphan of dispair to groan,
Left in the dreary wilderness alone.
Ah! will the Muses not protect their son,
Nor shield their fav'rite, till his race be run;
Will no kind patron his protection lend,
And in the poet recognize the friend;
On learning's rising honours build his own,
Proud to adopt the children of renown.
In vain I call their aid, no patron find:
Nor wit nor beauty ever found a friend.

FEMALE PORTRAITS†.

PRINCESS ROYAL.

No, in goode soothe!—I am not one of those
To breathe out sighs for that vain creature man
To lorde it o'er me in an unknown clime!
Too soone the softe delusion of his tongue
A changeful husband turns to wanton dames!
Let others then in patient silence sit,
And see each Ladie of their Courte caress,
Or lowlie handmaide of their house preferr'd;
But I'll ne'er pine, or fade in splendid sorrow,
Compell'd to wear the semblance of Delighte,
While my swoln harte is rending with its grief!
In peace domestique rather let me dwell
Within the bosome of my native isle,
Nor barter blessings of a British growthe,
For foreigne miserie in state array'd!

PRINCESS MARY.

AMID the princelie blossomes which adorne
Old *Windsor's* happie shades, can nature shewe
A fairer flower to bless each ravish'd sense?
More blominge as she teems in beautie's scale,
Her minde with all the social graces stor'd.
Growes riper yet in sweete benevolence.---
Heroic youthes, for chivalrie renown'd,
When foreigne warfares shall no longer rage,
Turne to this isle your royale course in peace;
Here viewing well the lovelie treasure, saie,
Is't fitting this faire forme should fade unseen,
Like the pale lilie in sequester'd vale?

PRINCESS OF WALES.

——— SHE came
A lovelie stranger to a foreigne clime,
To seale her virgin vowe, and proudlie winne
A People's homage!——
Rough was her passage o'er! for three long moones
The fretful elements conspired in wrathe
To wrest her from her Lorde!—but now arriv'd,
Of this sweete, tender plante, O thou possest,
Keep from its roote the briar's thornie snare,
And baneful creepinge ivie of a *Courte!*
So may this fair exoticke blesse our soile,
And bloom therein at peace!

DUCHESS OF YORK.

——THAT's her, the mirrore of her sexe,
Reflecting graces that adorne her state!
Viewe ye that eye uplifte, of purest blue?
Not for her patiente selfe she askes a bonne
But sighes for blessings wyde on all around her!

DUCHESS OF DEVONSHIRE.

SAIE, how can earthe's grosse meteors long abide,
When heaven's owne planets topple from their height?
Yon lovelie orbe which now is on the wane,
And but by shepherdes seen at twilight grey,
Was once the morning star that did arise
Most radiantlie be-gemmed! A gazing worlde
Confest its genial influence around!
Wise men did journey from the east to view't,
And bend in humble adoration of its power!
But now 'tis falling from its circled heighte,
To leave a darkened void 'mid beauties sphere!

DUCHESS OF HAMILTON.

SOFT, unsuspicious sisterhood of mine,
Ere you the hand of innocence bestowe
On woolinge man-- marke well, I praie,
The temper of his mind! Oh! wed ye not
To brutal sullenes, in Lordlie shape,
Or lowe vulgaritie disguised in state.
Unheedinge this, incautiouslie I fell
From all the virgin pleasures of my youthe,
To miseries almost confin'd to me,
The titled shadow of a *widowed* wife!

* He was a native of Kinrossshire, and died in obscurity at the age of 21. See Mirror No. 56.

† From an ingenious Work entitled, 'Passages selected by distinguished Personages, on the great Literary Trial of Vortigern and Rowena, a Comi-Tragedy---*Whether it be, or be not, from the immortal Pen of Shakespeare?*"

FOR THE SCOTS MAGAZINE.

WHAT IS LOVE?

ADDRESSED TO ANNA.

LOVE'S no irregular deſire,
No ſudden dart of raging pain;
Which in a moment grows a fire,
And in a moment cools again.

Not found in the ſad *ſonnetteer*,
That ſings of darts, diſpair, and chains,
And by whoſe diſmal verſe 'tis clear,
He wants not heart alone, but brains.

Nor does it center in the beau,
Who ſighs by rule, in order dies;
Whoſe all conſiſts in outward ſhow,
And want of wit by dreſs ſupplie!

No—Love is ſomething ſo divine,
Deſcription wou'd but make it leſs,
'Tis what *I feel*, but can't define,
'Tis what I know, but can't expreſs!

Edinburgh, 27th Oct. 1795. A. L. R.

SONNET TO THE BAT.

BY MRS RADCLIFFE.

FROM haunt of man, from day's obtruſive glare,
Thou ſhroud'ſt thee in the ruins ivy'd tow'r,
Or in ſome ſhadowy glen's romantic bow'r,
Where wizard forms their myſtic charms prepare,
Where horror lurks, and ever-boding care!
But, at the ſweet and ſilent ev'ning hour,
When clos'd in ſleep is ev'ry languid flow'r
Thou lov'ſt to ſport upon the twilight air:
Mocking the eye, that would thy courſe purſue,
In many a wanton-round, elaſtic, gay,
Thou ſitt'ſt athwart the penſive wand'rer's way,
As his lone footſteps print the mountain dew,
From Indian iſles thou com'ſt, with ſummer's car,
Twilight thy love—thy guide her beaming ſtar!

THE ROYAL CHRISTENING*.

PART II.

THE Chriſt'ning was not yet begun,
When thus the King beſpoke his Son;
Away and leave your bauble:
Shall Captain Tom † receive offence,
By ſtanding for a Foreign Prince;
He repreſents the rabble.

'Tis very well, young Hopeful ſaid,
You muſt, you ſhall, be ſtill obeyed,
My Sire and Heaven's vicegerent:
But Tom if e'er I pardon thee,
May I be ſtyl'd, as I ſhall be,
Not Heir, but Fool Apparent.

No, raſcal, no: not all the rout,
That for thy gold and liquor ſtout
Huzza the cauſe they hate:
And ne'er will leave thee, till they drain
Thy purſe as empty as thy brain,
Shall ſave thy ſoul from Fate.

How, quoth the King, is this your faſhion!
To hector Dukes of my creation?
Hence, to your room, begone!
Thou ſon of an unhappy mother,
Confined like her, henceforward ſmother,
Or vent thy rage alone.

His Highneſs, order'd to retire,
Deſpairs to pacify his Sire.
Alas! how can it be?
For well he knows the marble ſtone
As ſoon might hear his piteous moan,
And ſooner melt than he.

By letters when for grace he plies,
He mocks me, ſure, the Monarch cries!
Forgive him, rebel! Rot him!
Should I forgive him, after this,
The ſpiteful world might judge amiſs,
And fancy I begot him.

But ſince confinement piques the lubber,
Who bullied late, and now can blubber,
I give him timely warning.
'Tis night, indeed; but nights are long,
That he, and all his factious throng,
Depart the Court e'er morning.

A lodging, in a private houſe,
Is large enough for him and ſpouſe,
To ſolace in alone;
And for his lumber, maids, and grooms,
The town has ſtore of upper rooms,
Unfurniſh'd like his own.

The meſſage in a trice obey'd,
Down went the hangings; every maid
(The tidings being told 'em)
Pack'd up and ſobb'd their fright; and ſpeed
Made ſome cry fire, but all agreed
The houſe too hot to hold 'em.

The Prince he weeps from morn to night,
The Princeſs, ſhe, in doleful plight,
Has fits yclep'd of mother.
Well may they by that name be known,
Since Youngſter newly come to town
Occaſion'd all the pother.

O rare preſage of future bliſs,
That muſt attend a reign like his,
To whom the ſtars diſpenſe,
The Grandſire's clemency and law,
The ſoul and courage of Papa,
And either Hero's ſenſe.

Awhile, with reſolution ſtout,
His Highneſs thought to ſtand it out,
But quickly judg'd it better
To try His Majeſty again;
And lowly in the ſuppliant ſtrain,
He wrote the following letter.

With

* See p. 693. for the occaſion of this poem.

† Captain Tom was a nickname then given to the Duke of Newcaſtle.

" With tears which than my ink flow faſter,
Bewailing, Sir, my late diſaſter,
I humbly beg a ſhare in
Your mercy, might it yet take place,
And ſuch has prov'd your act of grace,
'Tis ſcarce the worſe for wearing.

Argyle would fright me with the ſlaughter
Of Hall, Kenmure, and Derwentwater,
Surrendering at diſcretion:
Yet Oh! on terms I ſtand no more,
Scarce dare I hope, tho' I implore,
You'll pardon my tranſgreſſion.

Ah! might I once again preſume
Within your palace to find room
But during good behaviour;
For, Sir, I am not quite ſo mad,
To aſk for what I never had,
Your confidence and favour.

And if my friends diſturb your brain,
I mean the few that ſtill remain
As hearty as before;
I give them up: my honour too!
A ſlender ſacrifice, 'tis true,
But can I offer more?

Your ſervice, as I underſtand,
Requires my vote, my heart, my hand,
To countenance the Godly;
And for the Church, your will is ſuch,
I ſhould eſpouſe it juſt as much
As Toland does, or Hoadly.

Agreed: and for affairs of State,
To you and your Triumvirate
I fairly quit the ſaddle;
Content to give my baby pap,
To lull the darling in my lap,
Or rock it in the cradle."

Thus wrote the Prince: With what ſucceſs,
I dare not yet preſume to gueſs,
Or judge twixt Sire and Son:
But ſure I am we boaſt in vain
Our native breed the wolves are ſlain,
By foreign bears o'er-run.

BRITISH PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Nov. 9. The Houſe, in a committee of ways and means, agreed that the land tax ſhould be four ſhillings in the pound, and no more, as laſt year. The duties on malt, rum, cyder, and perry, to remain the ſame as laſt year.

10. *Mr Dundas* moved the thanks of the houſe to be given to Vice Admiral Cornwallis, for his gallant conduct on the 16th and 17th June, and to the officers, ſeamen, and marines, who were under him on that occaſion.—Agreed to.

The order of the day, on the King's proclamations being called for.

Mr Pitt roſe to ſtate the reaſons for taking theſe into conſideration; every one, he ſaid, was well acquainted with the circumſtances that gave riſe to theſe proclamations, circumſtances which made ſo ſtrong an impreſſion on every one, as well without as within that houſe; it was not neceſſary to detain them long on the tranſactions of that day, tranſactions which were ſo notorius to every perſon in that houſe. He put the queſtion to every man in the houſe, whether, when the firſt impulſe was the impulſe of horror, we ought not in the ſecond inſtance to prevent a repetition of the tranſactions of that day, by preventing ſeditious ſocieties from holding meetings in future for the purpoſe of thus interrupting the public tranquillity. The buſineſs of this motion was not relative to the attack made on his Majeſty's perſon; that was now the ſubject of diſcuſſion in the other houſe; but it related to ſocieties in general: theſe ſocieties were of two deſcriptions; the firſt were public, held under the general pretexts of petitioning both houſes of parliament for redreſs of national grievances; other meetings were held for the purpoſe of propagating grounds of jealouſy, and every thing which tended to bring forth treaſon and treaſonable practices. The preſent bill, on the one hand, while it took care not to infringe the liberty of peaceably aſſembling, would, on the other, curb the licentiouſneſs of ſeditious meetings. In this caſe parliament felt itſelf called on for ſome remedy, and that remedy would be, a more clearly marked power in the magiſtrate to diſperſe, in a ſummary manner, all ſeditious and tumultuous meetings. The intent of this bill therefore was, that whenever meetings were to be held, public notice ſhould be given, that magiſtrates, with civil officers, might attend, and be impowered to apprehend any perſons ſpeaking ſeditiouſly; and that in caſe any obſtruction was made to their apprehenſion, that thoſe guilty of ſuch obſtruction be guilty of felony; and that in caſe the aſſembly was deſired to diſperſe, and did not, the perſons oppoſing ſhould, as in the riot act, be guilty of felony. This did not, he ſaid, go to the preventing of peti-

tioning in a peaceful and orderly manner. Thoſe were the outlines of the bill at preſent; but, in a future ſtage of it, perhaps he might ſubmit to the houſe whether is would not be expedient to make ſome alterations: he alluded to another ſpecies of meetings called political lectures; meetings where acts of ſedition were made the ſources of living to thoſe thus guilty of them: to theſe meetings perſons were admitted for money, or on tickets; it was therefore part of this bill, that no greater number of perſons than thoſe of the family ſhould aſſemble, without licences from magiſtrates. He would therefore conclude by moving, that leave be given to bring in a bill *for more effectually preventing ſeditious meetings*.

Mr Fox ſaid, that he felt as much abhorrence at the outrage offered to his Majeſty, as any perſon either within or out of that houſe; to which nothing could be equal, unleſs the abhorrence and indignation which he felt on this day, at the bill now offered to the houſe. The right hon. gentleman ſays, that the bill does not go to the ſecurity of his Majeſty's perſon, as there was a bill now pending in the Lords for that purpoſe; but it is a bill to preſerve the conſtitution. He would not go into a detail on the conſtitution; but it was obvious, that the conſtitution of this country had laſted for many ages with its preſent laws, the drift then of this bill is, that the laws are not competent. It was ſaid there was a ſeditious meeting; if there was, why were the ſpeakers not taken up? why were not the writers of theſe proceedings, and of the ſeditious hand-bills, puniſhed? According to the right hon. gentleman's outline, whoever ſhould talk of meeting for the purpoſe of petitioning, would be guilty of ſedition: this was, he ſaid, rank deſpotiſm. If, then, we ſhould meet to conſider of our grievances, muſt we ſend word to the magiſtrates, (a cry of no! no! from the oppoſite ſide) what then, ſays Mr Fox, advertiſe? good—we may; and go to the meeting, for what purpoſe? to hold our tongues. He hoped this bill would never take place; if it did, all was at an end. Taking the ſubject in a different point of view: did we wiſh to prevent revolutions? this was not the means: In the reign of Charles I. was revolution owing to freedom of ſpeech or not? certainly not; as libels, or writings and opinions were never more perſecuted. What brought on the revolution in France? not freedom of opinion.

Mr Hallied declared, that he had been educated in ſentiments of loyaly and attachment to the conſtitution, which he had hoped always to admire; but the preſent aſpect of the political hemiſphere rendered that circumſtance rather dubious. No one, he ſaid, felt greater horror than he did at the abominable and attrocious act, alledged to be the cauſe of the preſent meaſure, or more ſincerely wiſhed that its authors, and all concerned, might be brought to ſpeedy and condign puniſhment. He approved of the proclamation to that purpoſe, and the advertiſements of the magiſtrates; and great as the reward is, he thought it no more than ſhould be offered. But here the meaſure ſhould have ſtopped; for all that could be beneficial was done. He ſaw cauſe of alarm in the ſecond proclamation, and particularly in the preſent bill, which, in his opinion, had no connection with its avowed cauſe, the aſſault on his Majeſty, and was fraught with very dangerous conſequences to the conſtitution, and therefore met with his ſtrongeſt diſapprobation.

Mr Sheridan roſe; he ſaid he wiſhed, that if there was any ſhame in miniſters, that ſhame ſhould produce contrition, and that they would have abandoned the bill; but the right hon. gentleman wiſhed to hand down liberty to us, which was done by a direct violation of the firſt clauſe of the bill of rights: he aſſerted that there was a ſpirit of ſedition to overturn the conſtitution; if ſo, this gave the direct lie to his Majeſty's ſpeech, which had aſſerted, that there never was a greater ſpirit of loyalty, as the people had born their burthens with ſo much patience. He had alſo aſſerted on the firſt day of parliament, that the war had deſtroyed French principles; if it had, why introduce a bill now for the ſame purpoſe? As to the attack on the King, he believed it would, if it was ſifted to the bottom, terminate in the hanging of one of their own ſpies. On the whole, he would think, ſhould the preſent bill paſs, that both houſes of parliament were unworthy of the exception made in their favour, and that inſtead of being honoured, would be diſgraced by it—the bill, for theſe reaſons, met with his direct negative.

Mr Windham obſerved, that gentlemen on the oppoſite ſide, in this debate, had omitted every thing like argument, and ſubſtituted their own ſuſpicions and accuſations of miniſters in the place of fair and regular diſcuſſion. He wiſhed to bring the matter to a diſtinct view—He wiſhed to take their own documents againſt them; he

he argued, that they went to the ruin of the conſtitution. Their eulogies and praiſes of a revolution, that tumbled the greateſt empire in the duſt, was ſufficient to expoſe their deſigns of wiſhing to introduce the ſame anarchy and confuſion here. When they openly avow that a great event has taken place, which, they ſay, will change all the governments of Europe; when they proclaim this change greater than that produced by the Saracens, and the overthrow of Paganiſm by Chriſtianity, ſurely this and every other government ought to be on their guard, and apply preventions and remedies againſt this dangerous and inſidious evil. New ſituations always make new proviſions neceſſary: Such was the caſe in the times of our anceſtors; and ſhould we even go beyond the precedents of our anceſtors, the change that has taken place juſtifies it. If ſuch meetings as thoſe at Copenhagen houſe be ſuffered; if ſeditious ſpeeches be held forth; if libellous hand-bills be circulated with impunity; and if honourable gentlemen ſophiſtically defend ſuch proceedings; he aſked what might be the conſequences attending ſuch deſigns and unconſtitutional practices? Much was ſaid of the liberty of the preſs, which, like the lever in mechanics, was made a new engine in politics to ſet all men, learned and unlearned, on arguing and diſcuſſing topics of government, and, in this country, of throwing all evils on the back of the executive government. He was free to ſay, that if ſuffered here to ſuch extent, national ruin would be the conſequence. He hoped the magiſtrate would not be deterred by the name *ſpy*, or any other opprobrious appellation, from doing his duty.

The houſe then divided, and the numbers were,

For the Bill	215
Againſt it	42
Majority	——172.

When ſtrangers were admitted, Mr Fox was urging a call of the houſe, to diſcuſs this buſineſs in all its ſtages. A converſation then took place between him, Mr Pitt, Mr Grey, Mr Robinſon, Mr Sheridan, and Mr Dundas, the purport of which was that the call of the houſe ſhould take place on that day fortnight.

12. *Mr Dundas* roſe to move the firſt reading of the Sedition Bill.

Lord W. Ruſſell moved the queſtion of adjournment.

Mr Grey oppoſed the reading of the bill. He was ſurpriſed that a bill of that importance and magnitude as the preſent ſhould be brought up by ſurpriſe, and go to a firſt reading, without due notice.

Mr Pitt could not conceive why gentlemen ſhould complain ſo bitterly that the bill was brought in without notice—what notice would they wiſh to have, but the uſual notice of leave to bring in the bill? He was ſurpriſed at the motion of the noble Lord, as he ſhould have thought himſelf perfectly regular in bringing in the bill a few moments after the clerk had read it; he ſaid he had agreed to the call of the houſe, and at the ſame time had intimated, that he would bring in the bill in a day or two, and he conceived himſelf perfectly juſtifiable in ſo doing, under circumſtances ſo weighty as the preſent, as they were all called upon to do their duty to their ſovereign and their country.

Mr Courtenay ſpoke againſt the firſt reading of the bill. He reprobated the inſult on the King as much as any one in that houſe; the right hon. gentleman had ſmuggled the bill into that houſe, but he knew it would be oppoſed, whatever his addreſs in ſmuggling might be; the people would be rouſed, and would prevent their rights from being yielded up to the moſt incapable and tyrannical government that ever exiſted.

Mr Dundas roſe to vindicate himſelf from any idea of acting clandeſtinely. He had ſubmitted to the call of the houſe, for the very purpoſe of rejecting the bill, ſhould it not be found right.

Mr Brandling and *Mr Duncan* ſaid a few words.

Mr Sheridan roſe in alluſion to what had fallen from a Mr Canning: the right hon. gentleman triumphantly ſays, that a ſociety exiſts, in which king-killing was preached up, and that conſequently an attack was made upon his Majeſty;—as for himſelf, he declared his utter diſbelief againſt any ſuch doctrine held forth in that ſociety to which he alluded: he even goes ſo far as to ſay that he has ſeen an hand bill, in which this is recommended; he had not the leaſt doubt but that he had, and that theſe bills were printed by their own ſpies. This was avowed on the late ſtate trials; the ſpies had declared that they themſelves had made the moſt inflammatory ſpeeches in order to cover their deſigns. Would they pretend to ſay that they had not ſpies at Copenhagen houſe, and even near the very tribunes from which the ſpeakers ſpoke? He would therefore beg leave to do what they did laſt year, move for a committee to examine whether any ſuch ſociety had exiſtence, in which king-killing was recommended, or whether there could be any juſtifiable grounds for the introduction of the bill now impending.

When

When a diviſion took place on the queſtion of adjournment.

For it	42
Againſt it	145
Majority——	112.

Two other diviſions took place; one whether the bill ſhould be read a ſecond time, and the other when that time ſhould be for the ſecond reading.

A motion was then made for the ſecond reading on Tueſday the 17th.

For it	133
Againſt it	23
Majority——	106.

16. A meſſage was brought down from the Lords, ſignifying that their Lordſhips had paſſed the bill for the better ſecurity of his Majeſty's perſon and government.

On a motion being made, that the bill received from the Lords be read a firſt time,

Mr Sheridan roſe to oppoſe it. He was not much, he ſaid, in the habit of arguing any bill on the firſt reading, but the bill in queſtion was of ſuch an objectionable nature, that he would oppoſe it in every ſtage.

Mr Pitt ſaid, that the right hon. gentleman had been in the habit of arguing it in another place already, if it could be called arguing; he would perſiſt not only in his motion for the firſt reading of it, but would move for the ſecond reading of it on Thurſday next, and that, in the mean time, a certain number of copies of it ſhould be printed for the uſe of the members.

For the firſt reading	170
Againſt it	26
Majority ——	144

A ſecond diviſion took place, whether the bill ſhould be read a ſecond time, which was carried in the affirmative.

For the ſecond reading	151
Againſt it	25
Majority ——	126.

After the Houſe divided on the ſecond reading,

Mr Sheridan roſe to make his promiſed motion, relative to appointing a committee to inveſtigate whether there was ſufficient cauſe for the introduction of the two bills in queſtion. He denied that there was, in a ſpeech full of pointed ſeverity. This, he ſaid, was now the fourth plot brought forward by miniſters, as the pretended reaſon for extending their power, and taking away the liberties of the people. The exiſtence of theſe conſpiracies, miniſters had not been able to eſtabliſh; the poſitive verdict of an honeſt jury, had proved the falſity of ſuch alarms. If ſedition, to the extent ſtated, does exiſt in the country, it was the duty of miniſters to bring forward the proof of it; but as they ſhrunk from this, it could only ſpring from the conſciouſneſs of the falſity of the charge. Mr Sheridan concluded by moving, "That a Committee be appointed to to examine into the extent and danger of the country, and the reaſons for the proclamation of the 4th November, &c."

The Attorney General replied to Mr Sheridan, and entered fully into the hiſtory of the late trials, vindicating the conduct of miniſtry in taking thoſe meaſures which the alarming aſpect of the times rendered neceſſary, when doctrines repugnant to order, and ſubverſive of the conſtitution itſelf, were publiſhed and diſperſed abroad. He then read extracts from ſeveral pamphlets of a ſeditious nature, which had lately appeared.

Mr Fox roſe to declare, that nothing the learned gentleman had advanced, had tended to change his opinion concerning the obnoxious meaſures now in queſtion. He beſtowed high eulogiums on the character and conduct of the late juries; but their opinion, though in oppoſition to the opinion of Parliament, was no juſtification of the bills now before the Houſe. Miniſters, driven to deſpair, wiſhed to intimidate by force, where they could not ſilence by argument; and to accelerate their favourite object, the eſtabliſhment of deſpotiſm on the liberties of their country. The late conduct of clubs and ſocieties had been pronounced ſeditious; if ſo, why did not miniſters, by their ſpies and informers, bring forward evidence of it? Though not preſent, the meeting at Copenhagen Houſe, he was convinced, had been much calumniated; and a more reſpectable meeting than the late one in Weſtminſter, or conducted with greater decorum, never aſſembled to deliberate on any ſubject.

Mr Pitt aſſerted, that the gentleman would be much miſtaken if he imagined that that meeting expreſſed the ſentiments of the real electors of Weſtminſter. He would avoid, at preſent, to follow the gentleman in the various grounds he had gone over, but would afterwards take that opportunity. Every gentleman would have an opportunity of ſpeaking to the queſtion, when brought before the Houſe, and any delay to that ſtep, which was the object of the preſent motion, he would oppoſe, convinced of the urgent neceſſity of the preſent meaſures; and, notwithſtanding of the reſult of the late trials, the ſubject of triumph to ſome, he knew the

the bulk of the nation felt the full force of the evidence produced by the Committee of the Houſe, and he pledged himſelf to bring new and accumulated evidence of danger, from thoſe men to whom falſe lenity had been ſhewn, againſt our conſtitution. The Houſe dividing, there were

For Mr Sheridan's motion 22
Againſt it 167
Majority ——145.

17. *Mr Pitt* moved the order of the day for the ſecond reading of the bill intituled, "An Act to repreſs Seditious Meetings and Societies."

The Solicitor General (Sir John Mitford) roſe. He ſaid, that the bill now pending had been already ſo much the ſubject of converſation and miſrepreſentation, that it became neceſſary to enter more fully into an explanation of its principles: before the bill ſhould be read a ſecond time, he would take the liberty of ſtating the objects it had in view. *Firſt*, he did not deny that all had a right to petition; it ſtruck him, he ſaid, that all who were the true friends of the liberty of their country, muſt alſo be friends to that which went to protect that liberty; the principle of this bill was what he had ſtated it before to be, viz. to prevent the rights of petitioning from being abuſed, and that it might lay other reſtrictions on thoſe principles which were dangerous to civil ſociety—theſe were the firſt objects of this bill. The *ſecond* object was, to prevent a repetition of thoſe public meetings which threatened ſo much danger to the conſtitution, and to prevent alſo individuals from holding private meetings for their own private purpoſes, ſuch as political lectures, debating clubs, &c. It might be aſked, what neceſſity was there for ſuch a bill as this? the anſwer was plain; there had been, no doubt, ſome real grievances, but a vaſt variety of pretended ones, and theſe gave pretexts for holding ſuch unlawful meetings. This bill went to prevent ſuch proceedings in future, and this was the bill that was ſo objectionable, which went to protect our liberties. Under this impreſſion, he would vote for the ſecond reading of it.

Mr Erſkine roſe to ſtate his opinion reſpecting what he underſtood was ſaid on the firſt reading of the bill. He had not been preſent when gentlemen had declared their opinions on the firſt reading of of the bill, but he was ſure that the laws, he meant the criminal laws of this country, were fully ſufficient; but at preſent we were got into a conjuncture, in which it was thought neceſſary to enact this law, not as a temporary proviſion, but to laſt: this at firſt he conceived only as a law of the conjuncture, but the learned Solicitor came forward and ſtated it as part of the law of the land, and for the purpoſe of protecting our liberties. This was a law never thought of by our anceſtors, an act never thought of at any other period, which miniſters never thought of paſſing, even when they had ſuſpended that great *palladium* of our liberties, the *Habeas Corpus Act*. The learned gentleman had maintained, that the right of petitioning was not taken away by this bill; he maintained poſitively and abſolutely, without fear of contradiction, that it totally deſtroys the liberties of the ſubject. The bill, he ſaid, contained exceptions in favour of county meetings, &c. the people had a right to petition and to attend to their rights againſt the encroachments of the crown: in this caſe the magiſtrates are allowed to interfere; they are well known to be appointed by the crown, and removable at pleaſure, and theſe are the perſons we are to give notice to on a ſubject that concerns our liberties. He tells us, we are permitted to aſſemble; but how is this? with a magiſtrate at our elbow, inſtantly to ſtop our mouth. If this bill, for inſtance, paſſes, and he ſhould, with others, hold a meeting, magiſtrates had it in their power, by this bill, firſt to know the object, and ſecondly, whether it was any thing reſpecting reform in Parliament. He next took a view of the mode our anceſtors took to cruſh ſedition, and drew from this an argument, that the people would not, nor ought not to permit this bill to paſs. He then took a curſory view of the wording of the bill, which gave a diſcretionary power to magiſtrates, for which they could not decently puniſh them after. The bill, he ſaid, contained in it the moſt abominable abſurdity; ſuppoſe, for inſtance, 30 or 40 magiſtrates, ſuppoſe even the twelve judges put their names to a notice of a public meeting, two hungry jobbing juſtices could, by this act, diſperſe the whole. If a meeting was called, and any ſpy preſent, with only half-a crown in his pocket, he could ſay ſomething inflammatory, which would inſtantly induce the magiſtrate to put an end to the meeting. Mr Erſkine concluded a moſt eloquent and argumentative ſpeech, the bare outlines of which we ſcarcely are able to give, by oppoſing the ſecond reading.

Mr Auſtruther roſe and ſaid, that it was

his

his wiſh, that the rigour of the bill ſhould extend as far as was neceſſary; and ſuch was its nature and import, that it muſt meet his approbation. What was the tendency of the bill, he would aſk the learned gentleman, (Mr Erſkine) oppoſite to him? Why, merely to prevent the operation of Jacobin principles into this country. It was ſtanding forward at a critical conjuncture, againſt principles calamitous in the extreme, and involving the low and the great, the rich and the poor, in one common ruin. The propoſition of the learned gentleman (Mr Erſkine) was, that if this bill paſſes into a law, there is an end to the conſtitution; but he would aſk that gentleman, did it follow, that if a neceſſity was found for amendment of any part of the conſtitution, that any remedy applied for that purpoſe, could be ſaid, in any reſpect, to affect its ſafety, or endanger its exiſtence. What then was the caſe at the preſent conjuncture? certain circumſtances had occurred, which rendered the interference of the legiſlature neceſſary for its preſervation, by adding ſuch aids to its ſupport, as the dangers that menace it require to be applied. To gentlemen who ſaw no danger from men diſſeminating pernicious tenets, he hoped, he did not addreſs himſelf; they were all, he was ſure, conſident of their enormity, and were ready to counter-act them. Can it be patiently liſtened to by the members of that Houſe, to hear themſelves called by the London Correſponding Society, the dregs of a repreſentative government —to hear this ſociety declare, that they would not condeſcend to petition that Houſe? Moſt certainly the moſt ſerious alarm muſt have been felt. How then muſt this have been encreaſed, when it had been reported by this ſociety, that they intended to preſent, on the firſt day of the Seſſions, a remonſtrance to his Majeſty. Combining all theſe circumſtances together, who then can ſay, that the meeting at Copenhagen-houſe was not connected with the daring outrages committed on the perſon of his Majeſty? And if gentlemen are convinced of their connection, how could they heſitate to adopt ſuch meaſures as might tend to counteract its effects?

Lord Mornington roſe and ſaid, the firſt queſtion that ſuggeſted itſelf to him was, whether there was at preſent an evil in the country that required a remedy? the ſecond was, whether the exiſting laws were adequate to apply a remedy to this evil? the third was, whether the law now before the houſe was warranted by exiſting circumſtances? Never, he contended, was the ſtrong hand of Parliament more required than at the preſent criſis. We were called upon by every ſentiment of loyalty to his Majeſty, for interference in the prevention of a future evil. The noble Lord, after drawing a very unfavourable picture of French happineſs, of which the ſocieties became ſuch advocates, then proceeded to read a number of extracts from different pamphlets, publiſhed, he ſaid, by Citizen Bookſeller Lee, all of which had an actual tendency to encourage the aſſaſſination of the King, the degradation of the nobles, the abolition of all religious inſtitutions, and even to adviſe a general proſcription of the rich.

Mr Sheridan ſaid, he roſe to reply to the noble Lord (Mornington), but found a difficulty in doing ſo, on account of the pamphlets from which extracts had been made by him. The noble Lord, he ſaid, had taken uncommon pains to prove the connection between meetings of ſocieties, and the inſult offered to the King; but had failed in the attempt. He thought there was as little ground of connection between them, as between the ſpeech of the noble Lord and the queſtion on the table. It was the irritation of the people, in conſequence of the numerous diſaſters that have befallen the country, and the famine that threatened them, that cauſed that momentary ebullition of their fury, and not any preconcerted plans of ſocieties. With reſpect to the monſtrous maſs and farrago of pamphlets, or extracts from them, which lie on the table, and were, as the noble Lord aſſerted, publiſhed by Citizen Lee; he aſked why the Attorney General had not, if he conceived them to be pregnant with treaſon, or ſedition, proſecuted him? It was totally unbecoming the dignity of the noble Lord to be going over the ſtalls of ſixty bookſellers, picking out two-penny pamphlets to ground his ſuppoſition of the diſloyalty of men. If men were to be accuſed on ſuch grounds, he did not know what might be the conſequence. Every man in that Houſe ſhould therefore not act for himſelf, but, as the agent and attorney of the people, whoſe ſervant he is, and give his decided negative to a meaſure of ſuch dangerous conſequence.

Mr Secretary Dundas ſaid, he roſe under a firm conviction, that the meaſure under diſcuſſion, ſo far from robbing the people

people of the rights and privileges that had been purchaſed with the blood of their anceſtors, was calculated to confirm thoſe rights and privileges, and to tranſmit them unimpaired to poſterity. The bill of rights, he ſaid, had been preſſed into the ſervice of gentlemen in oppoſition. It was competent, he aſſerted, for the legiſlature to alter, amend, and even to abrogate the bill of rights, in common with any other ſtatute, if, in their wiſdom, it ſhould be deemed meet. He was aware of the ſolemnity of the occaſion, that gave birth to this great charter of our liberties, and any encroachment upon it ought to be the reſult of mature deliberation. The objections that had been urged againſt the preſent bill, might, with equal propriety, have been urged againſt a variety of other meaſures, which apparently militated againſt the conſtitution of the country, but which were, in fact, reſorted to for the ſecurity and preſervation of the conſtitution. The riot act, the ſuſpenſion of the habeas corpus act, the diſarming whole clans, the extenſion of the exciſe laws, &c. were of this nature, and furniſhed a precedent for its adoption. A gentleman learned in the law (Mr Erſkine) had produced in his mind much ſurpriſe and alarm. He had contended for the right of reſiſtance in the people without any limitation. With a modification he might agree with the learned gentleman. The people, he was ready to admit, had a right to reſiſt when the government enſlaved the ſubjects; but no man would be hardy enough to aſſert, that that reſiſtance was juſtifiable in the preſent inſtance; for the meaſure was ſanctioned by precedent, expediency, and conſtitutional grounds. He then adverted to the meeting of the 17th, in Palace Yard, and reprobated the conduct of Mr Fox, who, he ſaid, contrary to his wonted candour and liberality, had arraigned the conduct of gentlemen in adminiſtration, who were not preſent to defend themſelves.

Mr Fox, in anſwer to the charge of illiberality, declared, that he obſerved in Palace-yard a number of gentlemen, who might have vindicated the conduct of their coadjutors. The buſineſs was not done in a corner, and it certainly was the duty of every inhabitant to have attended on ſuch a momentous occaſion. When people met on the diſcuſſion of public affairs, in order to draw up a petition for the redreſs of grievances, it was very natural to animadvert on the conduct of adminiſtration, who were chiefly the cauſe of thoſe grievances. The omnipotence of Parliament had been inſiſted upon. It was, he readily admitted, the privilege of Parliament to enact and repeal laws; but, in the exerciſe of this privilege, they were to act with a ſound diſcretion; and the queſtion here was, how far was it politic or expedient to deprive the people of an integral part of the conſtitution? A proviſion in the bill gave men of property an undue influence and preponderance over the lower orders of the community. It conferred on them what was before the privilege of all, viz. the excluſive right of diſcuſſing public topics. The right hon. gentleman having commented, with great ability, on the different proviſions of the bill, and followed up the arguments adduced by Mr Erſkine and Mr Sheridan, which he enforced with a variety of illuſtration, contended, that the principle of the bill was repugnant not only to a part of the conſtitution, but incompatible with its very baſis, inaſmuch as it prohibited the ſubject from exerciſing two of his moſt important rights—the right of petitioning, and the freedom of debate.

Mr Pitt, with his uſual ability, took a comprehenſive view of all the arguments that had been urged in the courſe of the debate, and entered into a defence of the meaſure under diſcuſſion. He remarked on the invidious diſtinctions that had been made between the rich and the poor, which he termed baſe calumnies which had a tendency to excite the lower order of the people to acts of atrocity againſt their benefactors. With reſpect to the clauſe which had produced ſo great an oppoſition, he ſaid he would admit broadly and freely, that the only perſons who were not permitted to meet without the preſence of a magiſtrate, were ſuch as could not come within the deſcription of bodies corporate, freeholders, &c. This was a humane regulation, as it would prevent the commiſſion of offences that might originate in the heat of paſſion. Without giving the power of diſperſion to magiſtrates, all the proviſions of the bill would be nugatory, and no argument had been uſed againſt it, to induce him to relinquiſh it. After a variety of obſervations, Mr Pitt concluded, by a ſolemn appeal to the Houſe on the importance of this queſtion, and called upon them, as men, who wiſhed to perpetuate the bleſſings they enjoyed under the Britiſh conſtitution, to ſupport the bill as the only means of perpetuating thoſe bleſſings.

The queſtion being loudly called for,

the Houſe divided, when there appeared,

For the motion	213
Againſt it	43
Majority	——170.

19. Order of the day on the ſecond reading of a bill for the better ſecurity of his Majeſty's perſon and government.

Mr Fox roſe, he ſaid, that he hoped it would not be underſtood, from his declining to enter into a debate on the ſecond reading of the bill, that he did not mean to perſevere in his oppoſition to it in every ſtage; he perceived alſo, that a conſiderable number of members were abſent, who would have an opportunity of debating it more fully when the motion would be made for the Speaker to leave the chair: he ſhould therefore defer ſaying more on it at preſent.

The Houſe divided on the ſecond reading,

For it	64
Againſt it	22
Majority	—42.

20. The Houſe, in a commitee of ſupply on the army eſtimates,

Mr Wyndham (Secretary at War) ſaid, it was not neceſſary to trouble the Houſe with ſaying much on the ſubject; the facts themſelves were what the Houſe moſt deſired. The amount of all the forces was contained under the denomination of guards and garriſons, which might be ſaid to be the army in general. Under the other article was contained the forces of the colonies and plantations, which includes Gibraltar, Corſica, America, the Weſt India iſlands, and the forces ſent to the Cape of Good Hope: the ſtatements were as follow:

Land forces for 1796	L. 49,219	0	0
For their charges and cloathing -	1,358,624	2	9
For maintaining the forces in the plantations, Gibraltar, Corſica, and New South Wales, from the 25th Dec. 1795, to the 25th Dec. 1796	1,666,900	0	0
For the difference between the Engliſh and Iriſh eſtabliſhments of ſix regiments of foot, from the 25th of Dec. 1795, to the 25th of Dec. 1796	40,195	4	9
recruiting for the Eaſt Indies, from the 25th of Dec. 1795, to the 25th of Dec. 1796	8,345	16	2
For recruiting contingencies for 1796	360,000	0	0
For innkeepers, for increaſed ſubſiſtence on quartering, for 1796	120,000	0	0
For general and ſtaff officers for 1796	103,640	1	5
For pay of general and ſtaff officers on an expedition under Gen. Clarke, for 1796	9,259	18	6
For ſupernumerary officers and others, from the 25th of Dec. 1795, to the 25th of Dec. 1796	127,779	14	11
For the paymaſter general, ſecretary at war, &c. for 1796	143,490	13	5
For reduced officers of land forces and marines, for 1796	118,873	18	6
For reduced officers of the troops of horſe guards, for 1796	126	1	6
For officers late of the States General, for 1796	1000	0	0
On account of reduced officers of Britiſh American forces, for 1796	52,500	0	0
For allowance for ditto	7,500	0	9
For militia and fencible infantry, for 1796	917,299	14	1
For contingencies for ditto, for 1796 -	210,000	0	0
For cloathing the militia, for 1796 -	108,538	17	1
For fencible cavalry, for 1796 - -	476,636	19	8
For certain allowances to ditto, for 1796 -	115,000	0	0
For ordnance, for 1796	875,488	14	1
For ordnance ſervice, previous to the 31ſt of Dec. 1793 - -	279	4	4
For ditto in 1794	45,656	0	5
For ditto for ſea ſervice in 1794 - -	61,000	0	0
For ditto for land ſervice in 1795 - -	762,046	13	6
For the civil eſtabliſhment of Upper Canada, for 1796 - -	7,100	0	0
For ditto of Nova Scotia	5,415	0	0
For ditto of New Brunſwick - -	4,550	0	0
For ditto of St John's Iſland	1,900	0	0
For ditto of Cape Breton	1,800	0	0
For ditto of Newfoundland - -	1,232	10	0
For ditto of Barbara iſland, above preſent ſalaries	4,200	0	0
For Chief Juſtice of Bermudas - -	580	0	0
For ditto of Dominica	690	0	0

For

For the civil eſtabliſhment of New South Wales	5,241	0	0
To pay off Exchequer bills of laſt year -	2,000,000	0	0
To pay off other Exchequer bills -	1,500,000	0	0

A long and deſultory debate now took place between the oppoſition members and the other ſide of the Houſe. A ſtrong oppoſition was made to the ſencible cavalry, which being put to the vote, there appeared, For continuing them 62
Againſt them 14
Majority —48

The different reſolutions, with the number of men annexed, and the ſums to be applied, were then put and agreed to.

23. *Mr Sturt* preſented a petition from the London Correſponding Society, ſigned by upwards of 10,000 names; among theſe, he ſaid, were the names of many citizens of reſpectability. Mr Sturt introduced the petition with a ſpeech of conſiderable length, and pointing with much ſeverity againſt the miniſtry. The Correſponding Society was charged with treaſonable and ſeditious practices, which he was ſure a Britiſh jury would never admit. He would read, he ſaid, to the Houſe, what was truly a bit of treaſon, viz. an extract from a pamphlet written by Juſtice Reeves, in which he ſaid, "that the Monarchy of England was like a goodly tree, of which the Lords and Commons were merely branches; that they might be lopped off, and that the conſtitution of England would ſtill go on without their aid."—This, he ſaid, was a moſt infamous libel on the conſtitution of this country, and every man who did his duty in the Houſe, ought to reſent ſo groſs a violation of the privileges of that Houſe, and proſecute ſo daring an offender.

BREACH OF PRIVILEGE.

Mr Sturt now directing the attention of the Houſe to the pamphlet written by Mr Reeves, and which was called, *Thoughts on the Engliſh Government*, ſuggeſted the propriety of inſtituting a proſecution againſt the author of it, for the parts which he had already read to the Houſe, and which he contended were groſs libels.

Mr Wyndham ſaid, that for his own part, he was not prepared, nor could he believe any one was that had not read the pamphlet, to declare whether it was libellous or not. It ſtruck him that ſuch a ſentiment might be ſtated as an hiſtorical fact, or as a ſubject for the antiquary; where an hiſtorian might ſay, that monarchy was the original foundation of the government at a very diſtant period, and ſo it might be again. When the matter ſhould be before the jury, he ſaid, the whole would be taken together, and he had no doubt but the reſult would be honourable to the author; he then entered into a panegyric of Mr Reeves, the chairman of the famous ſociety erected in 1792, who he ſaid deſerved the thanks of the country for his patriotiſm on that occaſion, and he ſaid the country would be ungrateful, indeed, if they forgot him for the ſervices and zeal he had then manifeſted.

Mr Fox ſaid, he felt no ſort of delicacy or reſpect towards Mr Reeves, and he ſhould deem himſelf unworthy of any eſtimation as a gentleman, if he did not ſpeak of him in terms of reprobation; but, ſaid he, it is ſaid Mr Reeves' pamphlet is a ſolitary inſtance:—What! were there none of Mr Reeves' libels in circulation three years ago, (alluding to the publications regarding Diſſenters, &c.)? Were there no publications maintaining divine and hereditary right, anointed kings, and other anointed doctrines of government? But away with ſuch hoodwinked dealings. It was, he ſaid, high time to expoſe the error, and relieve the country from the apprehenſion and the imputation together.

The pamphlet having been read by the Clerk at the Table,

Mr Sheridan obſerved, that it formed as an whole, as well as in the paſſage which had been read, a foul, falſe, and ſcandalous libel. After ſome ſevere ſtrictures on the work, and its author, he concluded with moving in the words of the motion againſt Doctor Sacheverel, whom he conſidered as infinitely leſs criminal than Mr Reeves—"That the pamphlet which had been read was a ſcandalous and ſeditious libel on that Houſe, tending to alienate the affections of his Majeſty's ſubjects, and to ſubvert the principles of the conſtitution, and that it was an high breach of the privileges of that Houſe."

The Maſter of the Rolls moved, that the farther conſideration ſhould be adjourned till Thurſday.

Mr Pitt ſeconded this motion. He ſaid, that if the paſſage, taken with the context, could be ſuppoſed to mean that the kingly power could be ſufficient in this country without the aid of Parliament, he could have no heſitation to pronounce the publication a libel.

25. *The Chancellor of the Exchequer* moved the order of the day, for the Houſe to reſolve itſelf into a committee on the ſeditious meeting bill.

Mr Curwen roſe, he admired the can-

dour of the Secretary of State, in admitting ſo readily the call of the Houſe; it was now clear, that in conſequence, more addreſſes had found their way to that Houſe againſt theſe bills. In theſe bills there was drawn a line of diſtinction between what was called the lower orders of the people and the higher; the public execration had riſen againſt theſe bills, in proportion as they underwent diſcuſſion; in theſe the whole people were calumniated for the act of a deſperate few; he truſted that the united voice of the people would never give up thoſe laws that they had received from their anceſtors, and that they would come forward and requeſt of his Majeſty to diſmiſs from his councils, a man who thus dared to calumniate the nation. This bill went farther than to calumniate the nation; for it aſſerts, that 5,000,000 of people have leſs rights than 400,000: the natural reſult of this would be, that this Houſe would be changed into a mere chamber to regiſter acts; he therefore called on the Houſe to grant farther time to collect the ſentiments of the people on theſe bills. Mr Curwen concluded by moving, "that this Houſe will, on this day ſe'nnight, reſolve itſelf into the ſaid committee."

Mr Whitbread, jun. confeſſed, that he roſe to ſecond the motion of his hon. friend, ſolely for the purpoſe of delay; every day, every hour, nay, every minute, they could delay ſuch odious bills, ought to be matter of triumphant exultation. It had been ſaid, that theſe petitions, againſt the bills, had been obtained in an unfair manner: he denied the fact; he knew the people of England, as far as theſe petitions expreſſed their ſentiments, deteſted theſe bills. It might be objected, that theſe petitions did not ſpeak the ſentiments of the richer claſs of the people—that was nothing, it was the rights of the pooreſt that were at ſtake; the rich had many modes of expreſſing their grievances, but to the poor there was only that of petitioning. It had been ſaid, that the bill had been miſrepreſented on this ſide of the Houſe—the bill could not be miſrepreſented, it was not only a fatal and daring attack on our liberties, but it was alſo inadequate to the object it had in view. He repeated the arguments of his right hon. friend, (Mr Fox,) viz. that if the enactments of this bill are carried into effect, that "obedience will be a matter of prudence, rather than of moral duty;"—this he would alſo maintain.

Mr Grant began by obſerving, that when great evils exiſted, the reſtraining of thoſe was always to be referred to as a leſſer one; when a great body of men, perfectly diſtinct from the government, were preparing to make an attack on that government, what was to be done? Was the government to take no precautions againſt them? Let it be conſidered what the conduct of this ſociety was: they ridiculed the conſtitution, under which they conſidered themſelves as in a ſtate of ſlavery. They ſaid, the government was an uſurpation from beginning to end; and they ſeemed to have a fanatical averſion to every thing that was Engliſh. It had been aſked, why was not ſedition puniſhed by the preſent law, if any did exiſt? What had been called ſedition heretofore, was no more than the ſpleen which a ſolitary individual might have vented; in the preſent inſtance thouſands, nay, tens of thouſands, propagated ſedition every day. With reſpect to the ſmallneſs of the numbers of thoſe perſons, compared to that of the people at large, hiſtory furniſhed examples of great empires having been overthrown by people who originally had been few. The republican club, at Paris, had, at firſt, conſiſted only of ſeven members. The ſocieties in this country had been proceeding on the exact model of the Jacobins of France; their machinations had been directed againſt all authority of every kind, even againſt that authority which is always attached to men of great talents and attainments. When all the great and enlightened men of France had united, the wretched and infamous Marat ſtood up to oppoſe what he called the ariſtocracy of wealth and talents, and made his want of either a ground for claiming merit and popularity. The ſucceſs of Marat, and the fate of the others, was too well known; and to that ſituation was the Britiſh Parliament liable to be reduced. There was no ſecurity againſt the principles of the ſocieties in this country. Their leaders never ſpoke of their duties, but of their rights, and then taught them to believe, that to the people all power belongs; that they ſhould exerciſe that right; and that, after having done ſo, they ſhould be happy. Every thing beautiful in the Engliſh conſtitution they keep out of their ſight, and the very nature of Engliſhmen was in danger of undergoing a great change. The very evils incident to life were attributed to government. Human nature itſelf might be brought into contempt, if its foul ſide was always pro-

produced, and its fair ſide put in the ſhade; and for thoſe innovators he would ſay, that Swift's deſcription of the Yahoos was as fair a repreſentation of human nature, as the correſponding ſociety's deſcription was of the conſtitution. Keep out of ſight all that is beautiful and excellent, and the beſt work of creation might appear foul and deteſtable.

Mr Fox, after paying ſome compliments to the laſt ſpeaker, for his able and eloquent ſpeech, proceeded to anſwer the ſeveral arguments contained in it; from which, he ſaid, a falſe impreſſion might be made on the Houſe, on account of their appearance of reaſon. He could not controvert the truths with which the learned gentleman had ſet out; but he would deny his poſition as to the exiſtence of danger, as well as its magnitude. Neither would he admit the aſſertion, that ſo great ſacrifices were to be made. He would aſk, for argument ſake, whether the ſpirit of diſloyalty and diſaffection had increaſed or diminiſhed ſince the commencement of the war? If it was greater now than before the war, he had a right to preſume, that all the ſteps of rigour and ſeverity that had, ſince that time, been taken to repel that diſaffection, had only encreaſed it. But if that diſloyalty and diſaffection was leſs than before the war, he would then aſk, what occaſion was there to apply remedies to a diſeaſe whoſe virulence was abated. The proceedings of the ſocieties, in 1792, were too inſignificant to be made the ground of a legiſlative act; that any of them ever meditated the overthrow of the conſtitution had never been proved to him, nor would he believe it until it was proved; and he thought the juries much better authority than any committees of Parliament. It did not follow, that if they were friends to annual Parliaments, and univerſal ſuffrage, they were unfriendly to the conſtitution; and it was not from France they adopted theſe principles; but it was England that the French had to reproach for firſt broaching them. With reſpect to the learned gentleman's obſervation, that men of authority, tho' adverſe to the meaſures of miniſters, would be in equal danger with them, he perfectly agreed with him. "If there are men in this country," ſaid Mr Fox, "who wiſh to deſtroy the conſtitution by violence and carnage, and if they ſhould ever ſucceed in their attempts, ſure I am, that, if I was not the firſt, I ſhould not be the laſt victim of popular fury: ſo the learned gentleman had no occaſion to warn me on that ſubject; for I have long known it already. The freedom of a government did not depend on the forms of its conſtitution: Oppreſſive acts could not be defended, becauſe ſanctioned by Lords and Commons. It depended on the liberty men enjoyed of ſpeaking and writing, and it was that which had given this country its character of manly boldneſs. It was the character alone that made a nation free—the liberty people enjoyed of ſpeaking their ſentiments openly whenever they pleaſed. And if men now would abandon their rights, the fall of the nation from that character, though ſlow and imperceptable, was not leſs certain. Take from a tree its roots, or ſtrip it of its bark, and, though it may for a little time retain its verdure, or even its bloſſoms, it muſt ſoon decay and die. When all the fundamental rights of Engliſhmen were taken away, they ſhould then content themſelves as a degraded nation, that gave up the whole of their liberties. Mr Fox then concluded by ſaying, that he would uſe every effort to produce delay in theſe bills.—*Spatium requiemque labori.*

Mr Grant roſe to explain.

Mr Curwen's motion was then put, when there appeared,

Againſt it	269
For it	76
Majority	——193.

The next motion was for the Speaker to leave the chair.

For it	273
Againſt it	72
Majority	——201.

The Houſe then reſolved itſelf into a committee on the bill, reported progreſs, and had leave to ſit again.

26. The order of the day was moved for reſuming the debate on Mr Reeves' pamphlet,

Mr Sheridan roſe; he ſaid, that notwithſtanding the time that he muſt neceſſarily beſtow on other parts of his duty, he had read over that pamphlet, the principles of which were now the ſubject of diſcuſſion. If there had been nothing in that pamphlet but that ſolitary paſſage that breathed ſuch a ſpirit, he would have thought it unworthy of any other notice than ſilent contempt; but when it carried, through the whole of it, the moſt deliberate, ſtupid, and fulſome malignity, he conceived it not as a pamphlet, but as part of a deliberate and intended ſyſtem, to eſtabliſh the authority of the crown on the deſtruction of the liberty of the ſubject; he could not paſs it over in ſilence. The objects of this publication

went

went to prove, *firſt*, that all liberty depended on the King; *next*, that all our laws depended on him; that the Revolution of 1688 was only a chimera; that the Diſſenters in this country were a moſt wicked and reſtleſs race, and the enemies of monarchy; that the Whigs are now either dependent on the Court, or united with ſeditious ſocieties; and, *finally*, that the Lords and Commons may be lopped off from the conſtitution, and that monarchy would go on as well without them. In this pamphlet it was alſo aſſerted, that the King makes the laws as well as executes them, and after this followed a long hiſtory of the Reformation, which he aſſerts to be founded on French principles alone; and throughout the whole of this abominable pamphlet, he repreſents the Diſſenters as a race that ought to be extinguiſhed, like the Maroons and Charibs of the Weſt India iſlands.—As to the Revolution, it was only vulgarly called ſo, but it was a term unknown either to the Parliament or the laws. The pamphlet in queſtion he conſidered as part of a ſyſtem to ſtrengthen the hands of the crown, and this ſyſtem was carried on by perſons in the pay of miniſters. He here alluded to another publication, intitled, "The Example of France, a Warning to Great Britain." The author of this was Arthur Young, Eſq; on whom he found that there had been many compliments paſſed by one of the committees of theſe ſocieties, where Reeves was chairman, and the book recommended by him to public notice. Theſe people ſeemed to him to be playing directly into each other's hands: Arthur Young proves that the Houſe of Commons is moſt corrupt, and that this corruption is neceſſary for the preſervation of the conſtitution. The other (Mr Reeves) overthrows the conſtitution altogether, as he makes Parliament and Juries ſubſidiary to the monarchy, and that it was the tree from which Parliament ſprung. This man (A. Young) was ſecretary to the Agricultural Society, and theſe publications were printed in the King's preſs, and thus circulated, and this he could prove at the bar of the Houſe. There never was a country where there was ſuch an abſence of public virtue, and more private worth: and by this he maintained, that the country muſt one day, ſooner or later, come to ruin—the Britiſh Empire muſt fall one day, and the fall of it would be different from all other empires. In Rome, both public and private virtue were deſtroyed; but here the caſe was quite different.—No one paſſage from Dr Sacheverel's ſermon, which he preached before the Lords, was half ſo bad as this paſſage taken from the pamphlet in queſtion. The motion made originally was, that this pamphlet was a "falſe, ſcandalous, wicked, ſeditious, and malicious libel, tending to ſubvert the conſtitution, and highly derogatory of the privileges of Parliament;" and as this charge againſt Dr Sacheverel was not ſtrong enough, he would move, as an amendment to the original motion, the words "highly reflecting on the Revolution."

The Solicitor General ſaid, he would make no obſervations on it at preſent; for, if a proſecution was commenced againſt the author, his learned friend (the Attorney General), and he would, of courſe, be employed againſt the defendant, as their duty; it was therefore a delicate point for him to give an opinion on it at preſent.

Mr Erſkine obſerved, that if a writer ſpoke with as much obſcurity as the Solicitor General, it would be difficult to proſecute him. The great law officers of the crown ſhould be the adviſers of the Houſe on a queſtion of the preſent kind, inſtead of declining giving an opinion on it. The Houſe would ſurely loſe nothing of its dignity, if the defendant, againſt whom a proſecution was to take place, ſhould hereafter be acquitted, becauſe the Houſe was ignorant of the defence which might be made: but if they did not, in the manner of a grand inqueſt or jury, put the publiſher of the book upon his trial, they forgot their duty to themſelves and their conſtituents.

Mr Wyndham began by obſerving to what miſrepreſentations his expreſſions had been ſubject, but he would never, from ſuch an apprehenſion, be deterred from aſſerting any doctrine. He had not been prepared on the firſt night to give an opinion; but having ſince peruſed it, he was ready to repeat what he had then ſaid—that the paſſage in queſtion did not warrant the interpretation put on it. Many differences exiſted on conſtitutional points. Mr Hume, in his Hiſtory of England, maintained principles directly contrary to thoſe of Mrs M'Caulay. If no miſchief followed from thoſe opinions, and if the author did not mean any miſchief, his doctrines could not bear the conſtruction of a malicious libel. The object of the writer of this paſſage was to make a ſkilful and careful analyſis on certain points relating to the Britiſh Conſtitution;

and

and no man could ever write upon or examine any ſubject without making nice diſtinctions. The author undertook to examine the ſeparate parts of the Conſtitution, and endeavouring, by removing ſome of theſe, to ſhew what effect would be produced by the others, if left to themſelves. It was the ſame as if a perſon was to take a watch, or any other machine, and, removing ſeparate parts of the work, try what effect it would produce. Whether the monarchy was the ancient ſtock or not, was a queſtion of fact? There were many different opinions on that ſubject, as well as on the Revolution of 1688. He would aſſert, that it was a falſe and miſchievous opinion to ſuppoſe that, in conſequence of the Revolution of 1688, the King reigned in this country by the choice of his ſubjects; and the propagation of that opinion was much more deſerving a proſecution than the paſſage in queſtion. He ridiculed that reaſoning, that, if the branches of a tree were cut, others ſhould not grow in their place. Parliaments were called and diſſolved by the King, who could conduct the ordinary buſineſs of government without them. But though Parliaments might not be in exiſtence, the King always was; his exiſtence was active and viſible. The government of England, when ſpoken of, could mean nothing elſe but a monarchy, and it was that which the Author ſaid could go on without Lords and Commons. Having examined the whole book, he would ſay, that he would as ſoon put his hand into the fire as to ſay that it bore ſuch a conſtruction as gentlemen wanted the Houſe to put on it; and he never could think it becoming the Houſe of Commons to put the author on his trial; particularly if they thought a jury would not convict him.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer was happy to perceive, that no difference of opinion then exiſted in the Houſe upon the point of privilege, except as to the conſtruction that might be put on the paſſage in queſtion. The queſtion then before the Houſe was, did the pamphlet contain doctrines inconſiſtent with that great principle of the conſtitution? On this queſtion he muſt ſay, that he differed from his right hon. friend, and he would wiſh to examine it on the principles of the law of England. According to the principles and law of the conſtitution of England, the monarchy could not have an exiſtence, if the Lords and Commons were cut off. If, therefore, it exiſted at all, it muſt exiſt as at preſent. To ſay then, that the preſent conſtitution could exiſt with a King alone, was as untrue as to ſay that it could exiſt after a pretended republic ſhould be ſet up in the country. The paſſage ſuppoſed the branches, meaning the Lords and Commons, to be lopped off and diſcontinued, without any proſpect of a reviſal, and that the remaining part of the government could go on as well as if theſe had exiſted; it ſuppoſed that a kingly government would ſupply all theſe defects. All that was certainly a libel on the conſtitution; and as to the mode the Houſe ſhould purſue, whether to follow the matter up by any reſolution, was another queſtion. They were there to decide on the fair import of the paſſage before them; and he was ready, for his part, to ſupport the propoſition that had been made.

Serjeant Adair congratulated the Houſe upon their temper, and approved the original motion; the amendment, he thought, could not be ſo well ſupported.

Mr Sheridan, willing for unanimity, withdrew his amendment.

The queſtion being then called for, the reſolution was agreed to without a diviſion.

Mr Sheridan congratulated the Houſe upon their near approach to unanimity. After ſtating the various ways by which the Houſe had proceeded on former occaſions, Mr Sheridan moved, according to the precedent of 1707, that "a committee be appointed to enquire who is the author of the pamphlet."

Mr W. Smith ſupported the motion, which was agreed to without oppoſition; and Mr Sheridan and ſeveral other members were appointed a committee, for the purpoſe ſtated in it.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

Nov. 10. *Lord Grenville* roſe to move that the bill which he had introduced on Friday laſt ſhould be then read a ſecond time. His Lordſhip went into a definition of the nature and objects of the bill, which was little more than a recapitulation of its ſeveral clauſes. His Lordſhip adverted to the ſuppoſed connection of certain clubs with the late attempts, and boldly demanded of the houſe, if there was one man who did not believe that the one proceeded from the other? [Here Lord Lauderdale pointedly and repeatedly called upon their Lordſhips attention.] Lord Grenville ſaid, that as often as the noble Lord took up that tone of remark,

ſo often ſhould he feel it his duty to repeat this declaration. At that moment he ſhould content himſelf with moving that the bill be then read a ſecond time.

The Duke of Bedford ſaid, he could not but expreſs a ſtrong degree of aſtoniſhment that the noble ſecretary, who preſented this bill to the houſe, ſhould this day think it merely neceſſary to move its ſecond reading, without going into any of the reaſons which induced him to bring forward ſuch a meaſure, or any explanations of what the Duke confeſſed himſelf unable to underſtand. As far as he could gather from the bill, the main object it purpoſed, namely, the ſecurity of the perſon, and life of our Moſt Gracious Sovereign, was in no way ſtrengthened or guarded; and he defied any man to ſhew him the advantage it derived to the Sovereign. His Grace then animadverted upon the connection found by miniſters between the act, which no man reprobated more ſincerely than he did, and the London Correſponding ſociety. He ſaid, he could not but recollect, that when the noble ſecretary came down upon a former occaſion to move the ſuſpenſion of the Habeas Corpus, (an object comparatively light to the extenſion of the treaſon laws,) he had not ventured to urge that houſe to decide, without producing evidence (whether ſatisfactory or otherways) to juſtify the meaſure. The decent formality of proceeding was preſerved, in the preſent inſtance, ſimple aſſertion was all they had heard, and they were conjured to vote away the rights of the ſubject, and enlarge the penal code without any evidence of the neceſſity. The Duke declined debating the ſecondary or miſdemeanor part of the bill at preſent, and ſat down with giving to the whole his hearty and decided negative.

Lord Lauderdale commenced with ſome ſmart ſarcaſms on the noble ſecretary, whoſe diſpleaſure he had been ſo unfortunate as to excite by the *high tones* to which he had obſerved upon the aſſertion ſo often made by that noble Lord, a *tone*, which he would not be induced to lower on the preſent occaſion, and which the meaſure then under conſideration was little calculated to repreſs. Neither, he was well convinced, ſhould he be deſired by the country to lower this tone, when its exertion had already induced the noble ſecretary to abandon the moſt obnoxious clauſe of the bill. He was happy to hear, too, that his noble friend had taken up the ſubject in a much higher tone than his, to the honour of his ſpirit and political conſiſtency, and he thoroughly agreed with him in the grounds of his oppoſition, to this moſt unheard of violation of the law of the land. Coming to the general principle of the bill, he ſaid, "the time might come, when it would be the duty of a man to reſiſt it, even ſhould it paſs into a law." [Lord Grenville, anxiouſly, hear! hear!!] The noble Lord ſeems aſtoniſhed at my aſſertion; but I will tell him, upon the authority of as great characters as any of the preſent day, that there are times, which ſanction, and call for this reſiſtance as the moſt ſacred of duties. And I am not to conceal from your Lordſhips the alarming rumours, that aſſail me from without, that this bill is only one of a claſs, the firſt of a ſeries, which miniſters have in contemplation to bring forward. While in this dilemma we are prohibited from remonſtrance or complaint, it is ſome ſlender conſolation to find, that we are indulged with the privileges of diſcuſſion in the two houſes of parliament, by an expreſs proviſo in the bill; by which we are to underſtand, that without it, even this would not have been allowed us. The noble ſecretary had referred, without a ſhadow of proof, the connection of the correſponding ſociety with the perſons who inſulted our gracious Sovereign; and then aſked, very triumphantly, whether any man could be found who doubted it? I will tell that noble Lord, that I for one doubt, nay, utterly diſbelieve it; and more, I affirm, that miniſters themſelves are more nearly connected than this club. I explain myſelr by referring to thoſe ruinous meaſures whoſe natural effect is to produce thoſe effervеſcences in the people, thoſe ebulitions of famine and diſgrace. He concluded, with ſolemnly warning miniſters not to drive the Britiſh people to deſperation, by the purſuit of meaſures both wicked and deſtructive.

The Earl of Mansfield ſupported the bill, and reprobated the manner in which it had been treated by gentlemen in the oppoſition. His Lordſhip ſaid he ſhould put the preſent bill in two points of view: 1ſt, Whether exiſting circumſtances rendered the bill neceſſary; and 2dly, Whether the proviſions were ſalutary. With reſpect to the firſt, there could be little doubt of the neceſſity, from the number of ſeditious meetings held in different parts of the kingdom, but more particularly from the outrages committed on the perſon of the King, on meeting his parliament.

ment. The ſtrongeſt proviſions in this bill, he ſaid, were copied from an act, paſſed in the reign of Queen Anne; and notwithſtanding gentlemen might call him an alarmiſt, he profeſſed his belief that plots did exiſt to dethrone the King, and conſequently to overturn the conſtitution; the only extenſion in the preſent bill, was making it baniſhment for ſeven years for ſeditious ſpeaking or writing, and although he was as anxious as any one to ſtand favourably in the opinion of his country, yet he would profeſs his abhorrence of the many infamous pamphlets that were daily publiſhing, which, while they concealed the poiſon, might lead to the commiſſion of the moſt enormous crimes.

Lord Grenville roſe in explanation; he ſaid, that ſo far from wiſhing to lower the tone of the noble Lord (Lauderdale) he could have wiſhed him, in order that he might appear in his true character as a defender of the correſponding ſociety, as an adviſer, if prudence did not reſtrain him, for them to take up arms againſt the laws of their country.—Theſe expreſſions would long live in the minds of thoſe who had heard them; expreſſions which the noble Lord muſt know, if not ſpoken in that houſe, would ſubject him to ſevere puniſhment, as the laws now ſtand.

Lord Lauderdale called him to order; he had intended to have waited till his Lordſhip had finiſhed; but if he were now to do ſo, it might be conſtrued into an aſſent that he was wrong: he only called him to order, that he might be in poſſeſſion of the words, which were, "that if the bill paſſed, that he would reſiſt the act of parliament, if prudence did not prevent, and not a ſenſe of his duty, as he might thereby riſk the life of his Sovereign.

Lord Thurlow ſaid, he did not know how far the explanation might be correct, as he did not attend to the words when firſt ſpoken; but it was certainly competent to any member of parliament to expreſs his ſentiments in any extent while a bill was pending in parliament, to ſhew what effects it would produce, or what conſequences might follow, in order that parliament might not paſs laws prejudicial to the rights of the nation; and it was his Lordſhip's opinion that meaſures might be brought into parliament, which it would be the duty of the ſubject to reſiſt; but he was not fond of reaſoning on ſuch abſtract principles.—When the houſe divided on the ſecond reading there were,

Non-contents, 6—Proxies, 1, 7
Contents, 56—Proxies 23, 79
Majority - —72

SUPPRESSION OF SEDITION.

11. *Lord Grenville* moved the order of the day for going into a committee on this bill, on which Lord Walſingham took the chair.

In the courſe of reading the clauſes, a variety of amendments were propoſed, and thoſe which came from the Chancellor or Lord Grenville were adopted: When the Clerk came to the clauſe of miſdemeanours,

Lord Thurlow went much at large into this part of the bill. He believed, he ſaid, that no one would believe him lukewarm in his attachment to the Sovereign, and to the conſtitution of his country; for the preſervation of both, no man could be inclined to go further, but he doubted very much whether this bill was calculated to defend either: he had long imbibed the principle, that exceſſive puniſhments were not likely to produce good effects; and when he looked at this bill, and ſaw ſeven years tranſportation laid down as the declared penalty of a ſecond offence, he could not but conſider it as a farce to call that a miſdemeanor which had a felonious puniſhment. He condemned, in very pointed terms, the binding down the courts to that ſpecific puniſhment; the caſes might be very different which came before them, and yet the penalty muſt be the ſame. His Lordſhip then adverted to the next clauſe of the bill, which put it in the power of his Majeſty's miniſters, and his attorney general alone, to carry on a proſecution; from which he inferred, that it was not an improbable caſe, that writers would be permitted to write and print libels with impunity on one ſide, while a a voyage to Botany Bay would be certain on the other. Being up, he could not but advert to another clauſe, that of making an exception in favour of what was ſaid in parliament. This he conſidered as bad as any of the reſt; for, dreadful would it be when the freedom of debate in parliament ſhould ſo far become a queſtion as to make an exception in its favour neceſſary.

Lord Grenville defended the principle which had dictated the tranſportation for ſeven years for the ſecond offence; and this he was induced to do from the hardineſs of ſome offenders, who, while they were under impriſonment, were daily committing the ſame offences for which that impriſonment had been inflicted; nevertheleſs he had not the ſmalleſt objection to leave it entirely in the breaſts of the judges; and therefore he would move as an amendment, "that, for the ſecond offence, the culprits ſhould be ſubject to the com-

common puniſhments for miſdemeanors, or to tranſportation, if the court ſhould think proper."—This amendment was agreed to.

The Biſhop of Rocheſter, (Biſhop Horſley) entered into a reply to Ld Thurlow, and inſiſted, that all that the people had to do with the laws of the country, was to obey. This was warmly taken up by Lord Lauderdale, who ſaid he ſhould not have been ſurpriſed at ſuch an expreſſion from an eaſtern Mufti; but that it ſhould fall from an Engliſh biſhop, aſtoniſhed him beyond meaſure.

On the queſtion being put on the clauſe, the Duke of Bedford declared, that he conſidered it ſo ſubverſive of the deareſt privilege of Britons, that he could liſten to no alterations, and therefore would oppoſe it to the utmoſt in his power, which was by dividing the houſe, when there appeared Contents 43

Non-Contents 5—Majority 38.

The other clauſes were then gone through, with the rejection of that relative to the freedom of ſpeech in parliament, when the chairman quitted the chair, and the report was ordered to be received to morrow.

12. On the report of the treaſon and ſedition bill

The Duke of Leeds renewed his motion of amendment, for correcting the words —"the eſtabliſhed government and conſtitution of the realm," which were ſo equivocal and indefinite, that no certainty could be obtained as to the true meaning. He ſhould therefore move—firſt, to leave out the words "eſtabliſhed government;" and he ſhould afterwards move to inſert, after the word "conſtitution," the words —"conſiſting of King, Lords, and Commons."—He concluded with moving the firſt amendment.

The Lord Chancellor lamented that he had not yet had time to make up his mind on the alterations which the noble duke had ſuggeſted. The houſe had ſat ſo late, and his other avocations this day had been ſo preſſing, that he had been unable to attend it; he had, however, reflected on the ſubject, and words had occurred to him that he thought might ſatisfy the noble duke. The words ſuggeſted by the noble duke were liable to an objection, as ſeditious expreſſions might ſtill be ſpoken of the government. He would adviſe therefore to add, after the word conſtitution, thoſe words, "as by law eſtabliſhed." But as theſe were merely his firſt reflections, he wiſhed the noble duke would defer his motion till the third reading.

After ſome expreſſions from the Duke of Bedford, wiſhing that miniſtry would act with caution, on a ſubject ſo momentous, the report was read, and the bill ordered to be printed, and read a third time to-morrow.

BILL FOR PROTECTING HIS MAJESTY.

13. *Lord Lauderdale* roſe, for the purpoſe of offering a clauſe, by way of rider to the bill. It was for the purpoſe of extending the proviſions to Scotland. He ſaw no good reaſon why it ſhould not: the ſame proviſions which were ſufficient to keep Engliſhmen quiet, would be ſufficient for Scotchmen. If ſedition did exiſt in this country there was no pretence for ſaying that the people of Scotland were perfectly quiet; and therefore there would not need greater ſeverity to be uſed towards them than the ſouthern parts of the kingdom.

Lord Mansfield obſerved, it would not be neceſſary to treſpaſs long upon their Lordſhips time, as very little in his opinion would be neceſſary to induce their Lordſhips to reject the clauſe. The noble Lord had urged a very curious reaſon, why the proviſions of the bill ſhould be extended to Scotland; namely, becauſe that country was in a ſtate of perfect tranquillity; and therefore, it was preſumed, perfectly well ſatisfied with their exiſting laws.

The clauſe was rejected without a diviſion.

Upon the queſtion for a third reading,

The Duke of Bedford roſe. Although, he ſaid, he had no great hopes of ſucceeding in his oppoſition to the bill, and convinced as he was, he ſhould have no new argument to offer; but when he conſidered, that it went not only to the modelling of treaſon laws, to the mere extenſion of the criminal code, and the increaſe of puniſhment, but that it alſo ſtruck at the root of our liberties, and was ſapping the foundations of the conſtitution, he felt his heart weighed down with the preſſure, and his ſpirits ſunk under the load. In this ſtate he could not feel himſelf happy, or as having diſcharged his duty, unleſs he ſhould make this laſt effort, however feeble, to encounter the miſchief. The reaſons, or rather the reaſon, upon which the bill was grounded, (for but one reaſon was aſſigned) was the inſult offered to his Majeſty, and the ſuppoſed direction of certain ſocieties in procuring ſuch inſults. As far as related to the latter point, as a Peer of that houſe, he knew of no ſuch ſocieties; there was no evidence whatever before them, to ſerve as

a foundation to build any ſtructure upon. Much has been ſaid, at various times, reſpecting France. He would aſk the noble Lords, whether they conceived that the revolutions in France was occaſioned by popular ſocieties, or by the licentious offſprings of the preſs? He believed it would, on the contrary, be found to originate entirely on the government itſelf. The court was a ſcene of diſſolute morals, and corrupted manners; the miniſters, and adminiſtration of that government, were deſpotic and corrupt. In how many points did we but too nearly reſemble them? Our Sovereign, it is true, by the purity of his morals, drove vice far from his court; but our miniſtry, he would again aſſert, were corrupt; deny that who could. He concluded by giving his negative to the bill.

Lord Grenville ſaid, he was unwilling to trouble their Lordſhips, but he ſhould ever be ready to defend any meaſure which he brought forward, as often as it ſhould be attacked. The noble duke had aſſumed, that there exiſted no connection between the ſocieties and tumults which exiſted, and called for proof. What better proof could there be, than thoſe acts taking place, which their conduct muſt neceſſarily produce. The affairs of France had alſo been introduced; and he readily admitted that the great cauſe of the revolution in that country had been attributed to the conduct of their government. Yet, nevertheleſs, much or all of the exceſſes ſince committed, were cauſed by the clubs and popular ſocieties. He, for one had had hopes, when the revolution was firſt effected, that it would have proved a glorious event, equally happy for that country, and beneficial to Europe; but by ſuch meaſures, it had cauſed torrents of human blood to be ſhed, to the miſery and wretchedneſs of itſelf, and the diſquieting the reſt of Europe.

The *Biſhop of Rocheſter* come forward, (as the noble prelate alluded to) and explained himſelf upon the expreſſion imputed to him, as having ſaid, "that the people had nothing elſe to do with the laws than to obey them." This expreſſion had been charged upon as an expreſſion that would have come with a better grace from the mouth of a Mufti than from a Britiſh prelate; and that it was more calculated for the meridian of Conſtantinople than of London. His Lordſhip aſked, what comparriſon could be made between the inhabitants of that ſky and thoſe of that country? Theſe laws were neither known nor obeyed, becauſe the arbitrary and domineering temper of the deſpot was the only law. He was thankful to the noble duke (Bedford) who gave him an opportunity of explaining himſelf upon the expreſſion which was imputed to him. This the learned prelate did, by admitting the fulleſt liberty that the laws had given to the ſubject, but at the ſame time guarding them by thoſe wholeſome ſecurities, that would prevent them from running into the extreme of licentiouſneſs.

The houſe then dividing, on the 3d reading of the bill

For it 41—Proxies 25, 66
Againſt it 5—Proxies 2, 7
Majority - ——59

The bill was then read a third time, and paſſed.

MONTHLY REGISTER

FRANCE.

NATIONAL CONVENTION.

Oct. 26. THE laſt acts of the Convention were decreeing, that puniſhment of death ſhall ceaſe at the general peace, and annulling all proceedings and accuſations relative to the events of the revolution. All thoſe impriſoned on this ſubject ſhall be liberated, if no charges exiſt againſt them reſpecting the conſpiracy of the 23th Mendemiarre. All individuals accuſed of robbery or dilapidation, may be proceeded againſt by a civil action, for reſtitution only.

Thoſe excepted from this amneſty are all who oppoſed the putting of the new conſtitution in activity; the fabricators of falſe aſſignats; the tranſported; and the Emigrants, whether returned or not.

The Convention then declared that its ſittings were terminated, and it immediately formed itſelf into an electoral body, for completing the 500 remaining members.

At eight o'clock at night, on the 27th of October, the electoral body had completed the nominations it had to make, amounting to one hundred and five. During the night the *appel nominal* took place, for knowing thoſe of the electoral members who were forty years of age, and who were married.

The verification of powers were finiſhed, without any difficulty, on the 28th; and the deputies divided themſelves into two chambers, and retired to their reſpective halls.

The Council of five hundred proceeded to form a liſt of fifty candidates, from which are to be choſen the five members of the executive directory.

Of 350 individuals impriſoned in Quatrenations, accuſed of terroriſm, 320 are releaſed, on account of the amneſty.

LEGISLATIVE BODY.

Oct. 28. At half paſt twelve, a great number of Deputies being aſſembled, the oldeſt member took the chair.

Brilly of la Lozere called for the execution of that article of the conſtitution, which directs, that the morrow after the laſt ſitting of the Convention, two councils ſhall be aſſembled. He propoſed that the ſecretary ſhould be called, that they might read the liſt, and that the members might ſeparate, to repair to their reſpective chambers.

The preſident at two o'clock, informed the aſſembly, that he had received a liſt of the members who were to compoſe the Council of Elders. He obſerved, that it was a ſort of minute. This liſt gave occaſion to conſiderable altercation, till at length Tallien appeared, and read the liſt of the 167 members of the late Convention who were to compoſe the Council of Elders, with the 83 others named by the departments.

At four o'clock the members ſeparated, and retired into the halls of their reſpective aſſemblies. The Council of the Five Hundred aſſembled proviſionally, in the hall of the late riding-ſchool. The Council of the Ancients remains proviſionally in the hall of the Convention.

COUNCIL OF ELDERS.

29. This Council met at twelve o'clock, and choſe for its preſident Lareveilliere Lepeaux; and as ſecretaries, Lanjuinais, Baudin, Breard, and Charles Delacroix.

Charlier demanded that the Council ſhould declare its attachment to the republic; but on the motion of Charles Delacroix it was rejected, as unneceſſary for a Council which was aſſembled in the name of the conſtitution, and all whoſe members were animated with the love of the republic.

30. The preſident announced, that the Council was complete, being compoſed of 167 ex-members of the Convention, and 88 new deputies.

Therefore, all thoſe who ſhall come afterwards, muſt go to the Council of Five Hundred.

The Council decreed, that it was definitely conſtituted, and alſo decreed, that this circumſtance ſhould be communicated, by a ſtate meſſenger, to the Council of Five Hundred. The meſſenger was called, and advanced ſo far as the baluſtrade. The preſident delivered to a ſecretary a dispatch, ſealed with the ſtate-ſeal, and thus addreſſed—"The Council of Elders to the Council of Five Hundred." The ſecretary delivered it to the ſtate meſſenger, who, accompanied by two uſhers, carried it to the Council of Five Hundred.

The preſident invited his colleagues to attend the ſittings every morning at ten, that they might be enabled to riſe at an earlier hour in the evening.

31. A ſtate meſſenger from the Council of Five Hundred brought up the liſt of fifty candidates for the executive directory.

The moſt known among them are, Lareveilliere Lepeaux, Letourneur (of La Manche), Barras, Reubell, and Carnbaceres.

COUNCIL OF FIVE HUNDRED.

29. The Council choſe Daunou as its preſident, and Cambaceres, Thibaudeau, Chenier, and Rhenier, and Reubell, ſecretaries. It was alſo employed in the nomination of its officers.

A member declared, in the midſt of the warmeſt applauſes, that the Council would, in all circumſtances, approve itſelf the moſt rigid obſerver of the conſtitution in all its parts.

30. Jean de Brie had obtained a decree, by which it was reſolved that, in the ſitting of this day, the Council of Five Hundred ſhould make out the liſt of fifty candidates, from which the Council of Two Hundred and Fifty ſhould be obliged to chuſe the five members of the executive directory.

The perſons who had the greateſt majority among the candidates, for the executive directory, are, Lareveilliere Lepeaux, Cambaceres, Fermont, Treillhard, Fleurieu, Seyes, Berthelemy, Baudin, Le Tourneur, Bougainville, General Jourdan, Creuze la Touche, Reubell, Bourgoing. —The other candidates are only obſcure men, who were put in to complete the liſt, and to narrow the choice of the Council of Elders to the few eligible candidates propoſed by that of the Two Hundred.

Nov. 6.

Nov. 6. After a violent debate the council decreed, that Saladin and the other deputies confined in the houſes of arreſt ſhould be ſet at liberty. This decree was founded upon the conſtitution.

7. The following ſums were diſtributed among the different miniſters:—To the Miniſter of Juſtice, 500 millions; Miniſter of the Interior 900 for proviſions, and 100 for extraordinary expences; Miniſter of Finance 200; Miniſter of War 1100; Miniſter of Marine 600: Miniſter for Foreign Affairs 50.

8. Merlin of Thionville, who had juſt returned from the army of the Rhine, ſpoke of the accounts from thence having been exaggerated.

All young men who had attained the age of 17 ſince the 23d of Auguſt, 1793, were ordered to be included in the firſt requiſition.

10. The council aboliſhed all military requiſitions, reſerving to the directory the power of employing the military for objects of an indiſpenſable nature.

The following decree was paſſed:

Every deſerter, to foreigners, or to the enemy ſhall be conſidered and puniſhed as an emigrant. Every deſerter to the rebels ſhall be puniſhed with death.

COUNCIL OF ANCIENTS.

6. The executive directory announced that they had choſen Merlin of Douai and Charles Lacroix for Miniſters.

7. A meſſenger of ſtate preſented the decree of the council of Five Hundred for releaſing the deputies detained in houſes of arreſt. The Council of Ancients acceded to the decree.

23. The Council of Ancients, after a declaration of urgency, came to three reſolutions. 1. To place, at the diſpoſition of the miniſters, the ſum of 21 millions in money. 2. To ſuſpend the ſale of the national domains until the 1ſt Germinale. 3. To cloſe, for the preſent, the proviſory loan at three per cent.

The Council of Five Hundred ſat in a general committee on the finances.

24. The executive directory informed the Council of Ancients, that the ratifications of the treaty of peace between the republic and the landgrave of Heſſe Caſſel, took place at Baſle on the 16th Brumaire.

30. In the council of Five Hundred a reſolution was propoſed, purporting that the coinage of gold and ſilver money ſhould be forwarded by every poſſible means, and that the citizens who ſhould wiſh to convert theſe metals into money ſhould ſend them to the mint, from whence they ſhould be returned weight for weight, without any deduction.—Agreed.

GAZETTE INTELLIGENCE.

Horſe-Guards, Nov. 20.

A diſpatch, received by the Rt Hon. Henry Dundas, from Major-General Leigh, commanding his Majeſty's troops in the Leeward Iſlands, dated

SIR, *Martinico, Oct. 5.*

I have the honour to incloſe, for your information, the copy of the letter I received from Major-Gen. Irving, dated at St Vincent's, Oct. 3d, and to congratulate you on the good behaviour of the troops, and on the ſucceſs of his Majeſty's arms, by the poſſeſſion of the important poſt of the Vigie on that iſland. I have the honour to be, &c.

C. LEIGH.

Letter from Major-Gen. Irving to Major-Gen. Leigh, dated

SIR, *Kingſton, St Vincent's Oct. 3.*

I have the honour to acquaint your Excellency, that, finding this town extremely ſtraitened by the enemy having poſſeſſion of the Vigie, I judged it expedient to drive them from it, as the only means to relieve it. I informed myſelf, from thoſe beſt acquainted with the country, that a height called Fairbane's hill, commanded the Vigie; upon this I formed my plan of attack. The grenadiers and light infantry, with four companies of the 40th regiment were to gain the hill on one quarter, while the 59th regiment ſupported by two three pounders, were to force it on another; the whole marched at three o'clock yeſterday morning, ſo as to be at the object by day-break. The firſt diviſion gained the height early in the morning, with conſiderable loſs; the 59th regiment was early within fifty paces of the enemy, and made ſeveral attempts to gain the poſt, but the natural ſtrength of the ground, and the heavy rain that unluckily fell at day break, rendered the place inacceſſible. The troops having been expoſed the whole of the day to great fatigues, and the weather being unfavourable, from violent ſhowers during the day, and having no poſſibility of providing the leaſt ſhelter for them, I thought it moſt adviſeable to return to our former quarters for the night. Having ſufficient reaſon to ſuppoſe the enemy had abandoned their poſts during the night, I ordered out, early this

morning

morning a ſtrong detachment of the St Vincent's rangers to take poſſeſſion of it; and I have the ſatisfaction to inform your Excellency, that the Britiſh flag now diſplays itſelf there. We found all the cannon and ammunition there deſtroyed. Brigadier-General Meyers, by his able conduct during the whole day, afforded me the moſt eſſential ſervice; and the higheſt praiſe is due to this army, both officers and men, for the perſeverance, diſcipline, and bravery they manifeſted in ſuſtaining an action from day break until night, in this climate. I have the honour to be, &c.

P. Irving, Major-General.

Killed—Capt. Patrick Blair of the 59th regiment.—Lieut. Alexander Scipton of the 40th.—Lieut. Samuel Warren of the 54th.—and 43 privates, &c.

Wounded—Capt. Chriſtopher Seton of the 54th.—Capt. Vaughan of the 59th.—Enſign Hannagh of the 59th.—and 104 privates, &c.

Horſe-Guards, Nov. 23.

Diſpatches have been this day received by the Rt Hon. Henry Dundas, from Vice-Admiral Sir G. Keith Elphinſtone, K. B. and Major-Generals Clarke and J. H. Craig.

Caſtle of the Cape of Good Hope, Sept. 21.

Sir, The Dutch Governor having not only rejected, in the moſt peremptory terms, the propoſals which had been made to him, that the ſettlement ſhould place itſelf under the protection of Great Britain, but having alſo acted in a manner demonſtrative of ſuch hoſtile diſpoſitions towards us, as to juſtify the ſuſpicion which was conveyed to us of its being his intention to ſet fire to Simon's Town, from which all the inhabitants had been obliged to retire by his order, the Admiral and myſelf concurred in thinking it expedient to prevent the execution of his purpoſe, by landing ourſelves, and taking poſſeſſion of the place, which I accordingly did on the 19th of July, with the part of the 78th regiment under my command, and the marines of the ſquadron, the latter amounting to about 450 men, and the former to 450. Very few days elapſed before our patroles were fired upon by the burgher militia and Hottentots, who occupied the hills round us, while our people were reſtrained by the directions which they had received not to commit any act of hoſtility towards the Dutch troops. Hoſtilities being, however, thus commenced, and as the time approached when we might reaſonably expect the arrival of the troops and ſtores which had been requeſted of the governor of St Helena, it appeared to be an object of conſequence to diſpoſſeſs the Dutch forces of the poſt which they occupied at the important paſs of Muiſenberg, as by it we might perhaps open a more ready communication with the country, at the ſame time that we ſhould, by doing ſo, convince the inhabitants of the reality of our intentions, of which we knew they entertained doubts.

The poſt of Muiſenberg being extremely ſtrong in the front, and covered by a numerous field artillery, againſt which I had not one gun to oppoſe, our principal reliance was upon the ſhips fire, which, being properly diſpoſed of at the different ſtations aſſigned them by Commodore Blankett, produced every effect that could be expected from it. The enemy were driven from two twenty-four pounders, which were directed towards the ſea, and abandoned the poſt, before it was poſſible for us to arrive near enough to profit by the circumſtance ſo completely as we were in hopes of doing, as they carried off all their artillery, except the two heavy guns above mentioned, and one braſs ſix pounder, with two eight-inch howitzers.

The enemy having, however, taken poſt on an advantageous ridge of rocky heights, very ſtrong, and difficult of acceſs, a little beyond the camp, the advanced guard, under the command of Major Moneypenny, of the 78th, ſupported by the battalion of that regiment, attacked and drove them from thence with the greateſt ſpirit, although, in addition to the ſtrength of the ground, the enemy were protected by cannon from the oppoſite ſide of the Lagoon, which covers the poſt of Muiſenberg towards Cape Town. In this affair which terminated only with the day, the activity and ſpirit of the light company of the 78th, under Capt. Campbell, were conſpicuouſly diſplayed. Capt. Scott, of the 78th, was the only officer wounded on the occaſion.

The next morning the enemy having drawn out their whole force from the Cape Town, with eight field pieces advanced to attack us, but finding us two ſtrongly poſted, and being themſelves fired upon from the pieces they had left behind the preceding day, which had been drilled and brought forward by the exertions of a company of pikemen under Lieut. Coffin of the Rattleſnake, they thought it more prudent to deſiſt from the attempt, and retired, after ſome ſkirmiſhing, attended with little loſs on our ſide, and only remarkable for the ſteadineſs diſplayed by the firſt battalion of ſeamen, commanded by

by Cap. Hardy of the Echo, who, having croſſed the water with the marines, received the enemy's fire without returning a ſhot, and manœuvered with a regularity which would not have diſcredited veteran troops. The marines, under Major Hill, diſplayed an equal degree of ſteady reſolution on the occaſion.

On the 9th the Arniſton arrived from St Helena, with ſuch aſſiſtance as governor Brooke had been able to afford us. It conſiſted of 352 rank and file, with ſome field artillery, and a very limited proportion of amunition; they were directed to proceed immediately to camp, and the boats of the fleet were unremittingly employed in forwarding ſtores and proviſions to us; a work in which, from the peculiar difficulty of our ſituation, and the inſufficiency of means, our progreſs was very ſlow, and frequently ſo much interrupted by unfavourable weather, that we could hardly get a-head of our conſumption.—While this neceſſary buſineſs was going on, our future operations became the object of my moſt earneſt conſideration. On the one hand, as the enemy appeared numerous, and diſpoſed to an obſtinate defence, for which they had had ample time to make the beſt preparations, I could not but be ſenſible that the force under my command was, in point of numbers, inadequate to the attempt of reducing them; and I had little to rely on to counterbalance the diſparity, but the ſpirit of individuals belonging to it. I poſſeſſed no cattle or carriages for the tranſport of ammunition or proviſions, and a communication of twelve miles was to be kept up, to be furniſhed with either, at leaſt till I could open a ſhorter one with the ſhips that the Admiral might ſend to Table Bay, for which the ſeaſon was ſtill very unfavourable. On the other hand, though theſe difficulties were ſufficiently diſcouraging, yet the arrival of General Clarke was uncertain, and the ſtate of our proviſions was ſuch as to render the poſſibility of our ſtay, till it ſhould happen, very doubtful. Under theſe circumſtances, I determined on an attempt by night on the moſt conſiderable of the enemy's outpoſts, in the hopes that a ſevere execution among the burgher militia might intimidate them, and produce circumſtances to our advantage. It took place on the 27th of laſt month; but unfortunately, notwithſtanding every attention on the part of Lieut. Colonel M'Kenzie, who commanded, it failed, from the intricacy of the roads and the timidy and ignorance of the guides; while it ſerved only to produce among the enemy a degree of vigilance, which ſoon convinced me of the impracticability of any other attempt by way of ſurpriſe.

On the morning of the 1ſt of September, the enemy, having lined the mountains above us with Hottentots and burgher militia, commenced a fire of muſquetry upon our camp, which, from the total want of effect that had attended a former attempt of the ſame nature, was little attended to, till unfortunately the picquet of the reſerve, being too much occupied with covering themſelves from it, neglected their front, from whence the enemy poured in conſiderable numbers, and forced them to retire with ſome loſs. Captain Brown, with the 78th grenadiers, advancing, however, to their ſupport, the enemy were immediately driven down the hill again, and the ground of the picquets re-occupied. In this affair, Major Moneypenny of the 78th was ſeverely wounded, and we ſuffered a great loſs in being deprived of the aſſiſtance of an officer of diſtinguiſhed zeal and activity in the command of the reſerve, with which he had been charged ſince our march from Simon's Tower. Captain Dertaſſe, of the St Helena troops, was alſo wounded.

In a conference with Sir George Elphinſtone, on the 2d of September, it was agreed to wait ſix days longer, for the poſſibility of Gen. Clarke's arrival, and that if he did not appear by that time I ſhould then advance, and, under every diſadvantage of numbers and ſituation, try the fortune of an attack, which, however arduous, we deemed it our duty to make, before the total failure of our proviſions put us under an abſolute neceſſity of ſeeking a ſupply elſewhere.

On the morning of the 3d, however, the enemy, encouraged by the little ſucceſs which had attended our attempt on the 1ſt, meditated a general attack on our camp, which in all probability would have been deciſive of the fate of the colony: they advanced in the night with all the ſtrength they could muſter, and with a train of not leſs than eighteen field-pieces. Some movements, which had been obſerved the preceding evening, had given me a ſuſpicion of their intention, and we were perfectly prepared to receive them. They were on their march, and conſiderable bodies began to make their appearance within our view, when at that critical moment the ſignal for a fleet firſt diſconcerted them, and the appearance of fourteen ſail of large veſſels, which came

in

fight immediately after, induced them to relinquish their enterprife, and retire to their former poſts. General Clarke came to anchor in Simon's Bay the next morning; and for the ſubſequent events, which have been attended with the capture of this important colony, I do myſelf the honour to refer you to his account; truſting that his Majeſty, and our country, will do me, and the troops and ſeamen under my command, the juſtice to believe, that it has not been owing to any want of zeal, or of a cheerful determination to encounter every hazard in the neceſſary diſcharge of our duty, that the ſame event did not take place during the period in which we were left to ourſelves. Under the circumſtances of our ſituation I did not think the attempt juſtifiable, unleſs compelled to it by neceſſity; but we were at the ſame time fully reſolved not to retire, in any event, without making that attempt, which whether ſucceſsful or not, would at leaſt have been a proof of our zeal for his Majeſty's ſervice.

It is impoſſible for me to cloſe this report, Sir, without making my acknowledgements to Lieutenant-Colonel M'Kenzie of the 78th, Major Hill of the marines, and the Captains Hardy and Spranger of the Echo and Rattleſnake ſloops, who commanded the two battalions of ſeamen. Animated by the exertions of theſe officers, the troops and ſeamen have undergone great fatigue and hardſhips with a chearful reſignation, and have encountered a more numerous enemy with an active ſpirit, which entitles them to the moſt favourable report from me to his Majeſty. Lieut. Campbell of the Echo, who commanded a light company, merits alſo that I ſhould notice his indefatigable zeal, and the ability with which he conducted the ſervice in which his company was conſtantly employed. To this, Sir, I have only to add, that my ſenſe of the obligation I am under to Sir G. Keith Elphinſtone is ſuch, as I ſhould not do juſtice in an attempt to expreſs it; his advice, his active aſſiſtance and cordial co-operation on every occaſion, have never been wanting, and entitle him to my warmeſt gratitude.

I have the honour to be, &c.

J. H. CRAIG, Major-Gen.

I have the honour to incloſe a return of the killed and wounded during the period of my command.

Killed and wounded—Total 2 rank and file killed; 1 Major, 2 Captains, 1 ſubaltern, 1 drummer, 32 rank and file, wounded; 5 rank and file miſſing.

Names of the Officers wounded.—Major Moneypenny of 78th regiment; Captain Hercules Scott of ditto; Captain Dentaſſe, of St Helena corps; Mr Hirſy, Midſhipman, R. N.

SIR, *Cape Town, Sept.* 22.

MY letters from St Salvador, by the Chatham brig, will have acquainted you of our leaving that place: And I have now the honour to inform you, that all the India Company's ſhips, having troops on board, arrived off the Cape of Good Hope on the 3d, and entered Simon's Bay on the 4th inſtant, where I found the Admiral in poſſeſſion of the harbour, and Major-General Craig at Muiſenberg, a poſt of importance about ſix miles on the road to this place, with a corps compoſed of ſeamen and marines from the fleet, ſix companies of the 78th regiment that came in it, and a detachment of the Eaſt India Company's troops from St Helena, amounting in all to about 1000 men; and the enemy who had peremptorily rejected all negotiation, in a ſtate of active hoſtility againſt us. Under theſe circumſtances, it became neceſſary to endeavour to effect the execution of our orders without loſs of time; I therefore, in conjunction with, and aided by the Admiral, diſembarked the regiments, artillery, and neceſſary ſtores, and forwarded them to the advanced poſts as faſt as poſſible, where, through his ardent zeal for the public ſervice, and indefatigable exertions, as much proviſion was collected, as we hoped, might enable us to ſet down before the town, and go on till we could communicate with our ſhips in Table-bay, or draw ſome aſſiſtance from the country behind us: and having made the beſt arrangement we could, for tranſporting our proviſions, guns, ſtores, ammunition, and neceſſary articles of every kind, by the only means in our power, men's labour, we marched on the 14th from Muiſenberg, leaving a ſufficient detachment for the protection of our camp and ſtores at that place. The enemy could ſee all our motions, and the country through which we were to paſs for ſeveral miles being very favourable to the ſort of warfare that it was their buſineſs to purſue, (many of them being on horſeback, and armed with guns that kill at a great diſtance) I had reaſon to think we might be greatly harraſſed, and ſuffer much on our route. Our loſs, however, from the precautions taken, and the ſhyneſs of the enemy, fortunately proved leſs than might have been expected, having only one ſeaman killed, and ſeventeen ſoldiers wounded, in our progreſs to the poſt of

of Wynberg, where the enemy were in force, with nine pieces of cannon, and determined, as we were told, to make ſerious reſiſtance. But having formed the army, from columns of march, into two lines, and made a detachment from my right and left to attack both flanks, while I advanced with the main body and artillery, (which, much to the credit of Major Yorke, was extremely well conducted and ſerved) againſt their centre, they found themſelves ſo preſſed by us, and at the ſame time alarmed by the appearance of Commodore Blankett, with three ſhips the Admiral had detached into Table-bay, to cauſe a diverſion on that ſide, of which they were very jealous, that they retired with the loſs of a few men from our cannon, before we could gain the top of the hill; from whence we followed them cloſe for two miles, but dark coming on, and great part of the troops being much fatigued by the burdens they carried, and the harraſſment they met with through very ſwampy ground in the courſe of the day, I determined to halt for the night in the poſition I found myſelf, which proved favourable for the purpoſe, with the intention of proſecuting my march at daylight next morning. In this ſituation an officer arrived with a flag and letter from Governor Sluyſken, aſking a ceſſation of arms for forty-eight hours, to arrange and offer propoſals for ſurrendering the town; but I did not think it prudent to grant more than twenty-four, in which time every thing was ſettled agreeable to the articles of capitulation that I have the honour to incloſe, whereby the regular troops that formed the garriſon became priſoners of war, and his Majeſty is put into the full poſſeſſion of the town and colony; which I hope will prove acceptable to him, and juſtify the commendation and report, that I think it my duty to make, of the meritorious ſervices of all the officers, ſoldiers, ſeamen, and marines, that have been employed in this arduous ſervice. The difficulties and hardſhips that great part of them have experienced are extreme, and the perſeverance and cheerfulneſs with which they were encountered, do them the higheſt credit, and, I am perſuaded, will recommend them all in the ſtrongeſt manner to his Majeſty's favour.

The general character of Sir G. K. Elphinſtone, and his ardent deſire to ſerve his country, are too well known to receive additional luſtre from any thing I could ſay upon that ſubject; but I ſhould do injuſtice to my own feelings, if I did not expreſs the obligations I am under for the ready co-operation and aſſiſtance that he afforded upon every occaſion, which ſo eminently contributed to the ſucceſsful iſſue of our joint endeavours.

The arrangements made by Major General Craig previous to my arrival, and the active ſervices he rendered afterwards, claim my thanks, and furniſh the beſt proof of his having conducted his Majeſty's ſervice in a manner honourable to himſelf, and beneficial to his country.

Lieutenant-Colonel M'Murdo, Deputy Quarter-Maſter General to the expedition under my orders, will have the honour of delivering this diſpatch. He is well qualified to give you every information that his ſhort reſidence here will admit; and I take the liberty, Sir, of recommending this old and moſt valuable officer to your good offices, and his Majeſty's favour. I have the honour to be, with the higheſt reſpect and regard, Sir, your moſt obedient, and moſt faithful humble ſervant,

A. Clarke.

P. S. The quantity of ordnance, ammunition, naval and other ſtores, that we find here is very conſiderable; but as there is not time to have it examined, and proper inventories made, before the departure of the ſhip which conveys theſe diſpatches, we muſt defer ſending ſuch documents as may be thought neceſſary upon this ſubject till another opportunity.

The regular troops made priſoners of war amount to about one thouſand, ſix hundred of which are of the regiment of Gordon, and the reſt principally of the corps of artillery.—Incloſed is a return of the killed and wounded on the 14th inſtant. A. C.

Articles of Capitulation propoſed by the Hon. Commiſſary and Council of Regency of the Cape of Good Hope to Gen. A. Clarke, commanding his Britannic Majeſty's troops, and to Vice-Admiral the Hon. Sir G. Keith Elphinſtone, commanding the ſhips of war of his ſaid Majeſty.

Art. I. The caſtle and the town ſhall be ſurrendered to the troops of his Britannic Majeſty.—Anſ. The capitulation being ſigned, the caſtle and the town muſt be ſurrendered to a detachment of his Britannic Majeſty's troops at eleven o'clock this day.

II. The military ſhall march out with the honours of war, and ſhall then lay down their arms and become priſoners of war, but the officers ſhall retain their ſwords—Anſ. Agreed.

III. Such officers as ſhall be deſirous of leaving the colony ſhall have permiſſion to do ſo, they giving their parole of honour that they will not ſerve againſt Great Britain during the preſent war; and there ſhall be no impediment to their going home in neutral ſhips, if they chuſe it, at their own expence.—Anſ. Agreed; and in the mean time they ſhall remain priſoners on their parole at the Cape Town.

IV. Such officers as chuſe to remain here, without ſervice, ſhall have leave ſo to do.—Anſ. Agreed.

V. All property belonging to the Dutch Eaſt India Company ſhall be faithfully delivered up without reſervation, and proper inventories furniſhed to ſuch officers as ſhall be appointed to receive it; but all private property of every ſort, whether belonging to the Company's civil, naval, or military ſervants, to the burghers and inhabitants, to churches, orphans, or public inſtitutions, ſhall remain free and untouched.—Anſ. Agreed, in its fulleſt latitude.

VI. Servants of the Company out of pay, or in the ſervice of the burghers, deſirous of remaining in the colony, ſhall be permitted to do ſo.—Anſ. Agreed.

VII. The inhabitants of the colony ſhall preſerve the prerogatives which they at preſent enjoy. Public worſhip, as at preſent in uſe, ſhall alſo be maintained without alteration.—Anſ. Agreed.

VIII. His Britannic Majeſty ſhall continue the money in its preſent value, to prevent the total ruin of the inhabitants. Anſ. Agreed.

IX. No new taxes ſhall be introduced; but the preſent ones ſhall be modified as much as poſſible, in conſideration of the decay of the colony.—Anſ. Agreed.

X. The Commiſſary, as governor, being priſoner of war, ſhall, after having delivered up what belongs to the Company, be at liberty to depart from hence on his parole of honour, and may, if he chuſes it, take his paſſage on board a neutral ſhip.—Anſ. Agreed.

XII. He ſhall alſo be permitted to carry along with him, or to realize all his private property of every ſort, giving his word of honour as to its being really ſuch, Anſ. Agreed.

XII. He ſhall likewiſe have permiſſion, after having faithfully delivered up all papers, plans, &c. belonging to this government, to retain all papers belonging to himſelf, and which may appear neceſſary to him for the vindication of his conduct during the time of his miniſtry, in the ſame manner as he might have done, had he been diſcharged by his ſovereign. Anſ. Agreed.

XIII. No perſons whatever, whether ſervants of the Company, ſeamen, military, burghers, or others of the colony, ſhall be preſſed into his Britannic Majeſty's ſervice, or engaged but by their own free will and conſent.—Anſ. Agreed.

ALURED CLARKE, General.
GEORGE KEITH ELPHINSTONE, Vice-Admiral.

ADDITIONAL ARTICLE.

It having been repreſented to us, that the utmoſt confuſion muſt enſue in the colony, that it would, in all probability, be attended with the entire ruin of it, if the paper money now circulating in it were deprived of that ſecurity which can alone give any effect to the eighth article, we therefore conſent, that the lands and houſes, the property of the Eaſt India Company in this ſettlement, ſhall continue the ſecurity of that part of the money which is not already ſecured by mortgages upon the eſtates of individuals, by its having been lent to them. This is to be, however, without prejudice to the government of Great Britain having the uſe of the buildings, &c. for public purpoſes. And we will further repreſent to his Majeſty's government the infinite importance of this ſubject to the future proſperity of the colony, and requeſt that they will take it into conſideration, in order to make ſuch arrangements as may appear proper for its further ſecurity, if neceſſary, or for its final liquidation, if practicable.

ALURED CLARKE, General.
GEORGE KEITH ELPHINSTONE, Vice-Admiral.

Copy of tranſlation.
JOHN JACKSON.

Total—Killed and wounded—1 rank and file killed, 2 ſerjeants, 16 rank and file wounded.

A diſpatch, of which the following is an extract, has been this day received from Vice Admiral the Hon. Sir G. Keith Elphinſtone, K. B. dated on board his Majeſty' ſhip Monarch, in Table Bay, Sept. 23.

I have the honour to acquaint you, for the information of my Lords Commiſſioners of the Admiralty, that on the 16th inſtant the colony and the Cape of Good Hope ſurrendered by capitulation to the Britiſh arms, in conſequence of which I proceeded in the Monarch to this bay, whither I had previouſly diſpatched Commodore

dore Blankett in the America, with the two ſloops and an India ſhip, for the purpoſe of raiſing an alarm on the Cape Town-ſide, in which he ſucceeded admirably.

This event has given me great ſatisfaction, not only from the fortunate termination, but alſo from the relief it affords to the officers, ſeamen, and marines of the fleet under my command, after a laborious ſervice for a length of time, wherein they were continually fatigued, and often unavoidably ill fed.

Evan Nepean, Eſq;

Horſe-Guards, Nov. 28.

Diſpatches, of which the following are copies, have been received at the Office of the Rt Hon. Lord Grenville, one of his Majeſty's Principal Secretaries of State.

Head Quarters of Marſhal Clairfayt's army, Mayence, Nov 3.

My Lord,

I Have the honour to inform your Lordſhip, that Marſhal Clairfayt's advanced guards have followed up the brilliant victory of the 29th with ſo much vigour, that they have taken forty-three pieces of artillery in addition to the hundred and ſix mentioned in my laſt report. They have found the remains of great quantities of ammunition waggons that had been blown up; ſtores of all ſorts, partly damaged, partly ſerviceable; and wherever their march has been directed, they have perceived evident traces of the moſt precipitate and diſorderly flight. General Schaal's diſperſed army has gone towards the Moſelle.

Marſhal Clairfayt has occupied Bingen and Kreukrenach, and placed a corps in each poſition behind the Nahe rivulet, ſo as to cut off all direct communication between Generals Jourdan and Pichegru. He has alſo a corps at Altzey, whoſe advanced poſts extend nearly to Worms. Part of his troops have returned from the Lahn, and the main army is now collected and encamped in the front of Mayence behind the Seltz rivulet.

On the 30th of October, the Auſtrian General Boros ſurpriſed and made priſoners ſeven hundred infantry who occupied the Nieder Wert, an iſland on the Rhine near Neuwied. And on the 31ſt, the enemy evacuated the ſtrong works that they had erected to cover their bridge at that place, upon finding that the Auſtrians were preparing to ſtorm them.

Every day freſh inſtances come to our knowledge of outrages and cruelties, exerciſed by Gen. Jourdan's troops in their retreat. The inhabitants were driven to deſpair in many places, and fell upon the enemy with forks, ſcythes, and ſuch other weapons as they could procure.

Head Quarters of Marſhal Clairfayt's army, Bechtcim, Nov. 9.

My Lord,

I have the honour to inform your Lordſhip, that an advanced poſt of Marſhal Clairfayt's army, under the command of Gen. Naundorf, obtained an advantage over the enemy on the 3d inſtant, between Altzey and Kirkheim; and on the 4th, the Marſhal marched from his camp before Mayence; on the 5th, he arrived at this place, which is about eight Engliſh miles from Worms.

Gen. Wartenſleben encamped the ſame day, with a conſiderable corps, in the neighbourhood of Altzey, being covered by two advanced guards, one under the Prince of Hohenloe at Bingen, the other under Gen. Naundorf, who occupied Kreutzenach, and maſked the enemy's poſt at Kirkheim. The advanced guard of the main army, commanded by Gen. Kray, encamped near Pfederſheim, upon the Pfrim rivulet, drawing its advanced poſt of the Rhine, till they formed thoſe of Gen. Naundorf.

On the 6th inſtant, Gen. Naundorf marched with part of his troops to take poſſeſſion of the principal paſs that leads from Kreutzenach to Kaiſerſlautern. He attacked the enemy at Rockenhanſen, who, after being diſlodged from a very ſtrong entrenched poſt at that place, abandoned Falkenſtein, and retired in great confuſion behind Winweiler.

The loſs of the Auſtrians on this occaſion was not great. The enemy had about two hundred taken priſoners, and left about three hundred on the field.

I have the honour to be, &c.

C. CRAUFURD.

Whitehall, Dec. 10.

Diſpatches were received laſt night from Lieut. Col. Craufurd, and Robert Craufurd, Eſq; by Lord Grenville.

Head Quarters of Marſhal Clairfayt's Army, Pfeirderſheim, near Worms, Nov. 12.

My Lord,

I Have the honour to inform your Lordſhip, that Marſhal Clairfayt, after having thrown two bridges over the Rhine at Gemſheim, and received a reinforcement from General Wurmſer, marched on the 10th inſtant to attack General Pichegru's army, which was encamped

upon the heights behind the Prim, a rivulet that runs into the Rhine a little below Worms. General Wartenſleben marched at the ſame time from Altzy to attack the enemy's poſt at Kircheim.

Upon the approach of the Auſtrian army, General Pichegru quitted his very advantageous poſition, and retreated towards Frankenthal and Turkheim. The Auſtrians did not arrive in time to bring on a ſerious affair with his rear guard; however, they took three pieces of cannon, ſeveral priſoners, and killed and wounded conſiderable numbers.

Marſhal Clairfayt encamped with the main army cloſe to the Pfrim that evening; General Wartenſleben at Kircheim.

On the 11th the Marſhal croſſed the Pfrim, and encamped on the right of the road that leads from Worms to Manheim. The enemy had evacuated Worms in the night, and General De la Tour, with part of the reſerve, drove them out of Frankenthal, whilſt the enemy was occupying its poſition. He took three cannon, and above one hundred priſoners: the enemy in the courſe of this day, had above two hundred killed and wounded. The advanced poſts were puſhed towards Manheim, Turkheim, and Keyſerſlautern.

To-day no movement of any conſequence has taken place on this ſide.

General Wartenſleben returned to Altzy the 11th, as part of General Jourdan's army had appeared in front of his poſts at Krentzenach and Bingen; and to-day he has encamped with his whole forces between theſe two places.

The Auſtrians loſt, in the courſe of the 10th and 11th, about two hundred and fifty men.

On the 10th at night the trenches were regularly opened at Manheim.

I have the honour to be, &c.

C. CRAUFURD.

Head Quarters of Marſhal Clairfayt, Pfederſheim, Nov. 13.

My Lord,

I have the honour to inform your Lordſhip, that in the afternoon of yeſterday, after I had ſent off my laſt diſpatch, part of General Pichegru's army attacked the Auſtrian poſt at Frankenthal. The ground in front of that town is of ſuch a nature as to admit of the enemy's approaching to within a very ſhort diſtance without being diſcovered; and they profited of this advantage by bringing a large body of troops, and above thirty pieces of cannon, ſo forward before they commenced the attack, as almoſt to enſure their carrying the place, more eſpecially as it was not occupied in force. They ſucceeded, after a terrible fire of grape-ſhot and muſquetry: But whilſt they were making their diſpoſitions to maintain the important point which they had gained, the Auſtrian General, De la Tour, advanced with two battalions and ten ſquadrons, attacked the town with the utmoſt impetuoſity, drove the enemy out of it, took about three hundred priſoners, and killed and wounded between five and ſix hundred.

The Auſtrians had on this occaſion eight officers, and about two hundred non-commiſſioned officers and privates killed and wounded.

General Pichegru has taken a poſition with his right to the Rhine, his left to Turkheim; ſo that Manheim is not yet inveſted on this ſide of the Rhine. I have the honour to be, &c.

C. CRAUFURD.

Head Quarters of Marſhall Clairfayt, Frankenthal, Nov. 15.

My Lord, I have the honour to inform your Lordſhip, that Marſhal Clairfayt marched yeſterday to attack General Pichegru, who occupied a very ſtrong poſition, with his left at Turkheim, his right to the wood of Frieſenheim, which runs cloſe up to the Rhine, a little below Manheim. His left wing and centre ſtood upon very commanding heights; the former being covered along part of its front, and on its flank, by an impaſſable moraſs; the latter by a rivulet, the banks of which were marſhy, and interſected with ſeveral deep ditches. His right wing was partly in the wood of Frieſenheim, and partly in the villages of Oggerſheim, Epſtein, and Flomerſheim, and the adjacent incloſures. This wing was alſo difficult of approach from the many broad ditches that ran along its front, eſpecially near the villages and in the wood of Frieſenheim; but, upon the whole, it preſented fewer obſtacles than the other parts of the poſition. Before the left of his centre, was the village of Lambſheim, where he had placed a body of infantry, and ſome artillery, as it ſtood upon one of the principal roads leading towards his camp.

Marſhal Clairfayt's diſpoſition was as follows:

The right, or firſt column, forming a ſeparate corps of five battalions and ſixteen ſquadrons, under General Kray, was to

to attack at Turkheim, and if they could not force that point, they were at leaſt to act in ſuch a manner as to prevent the enemy's detaching from thence.

The right wing and centre of the army, commanded by the Marſhal in perſon, was to march in ſix columns; four, making eighteen battalions and twenty-ſix ſquadrons, to form oppoſite the right of the enemy's left wing, and oppoſite the left of their centre. The two others, making nine battalions and eight ſquadrons, oppoſite the remainder of their centre.

The left wing, under General De la Tour, was to march in three columns; one of three battalions and four ſquadrons, towards the wood of Frieſenheim; one of ſix battalions and twelve ſquadrons, towards Oggerſheim; one of five battalions and ten ſquadrons, towards Flomerſheim and Epſtein.

The whole had a proper proportion of heavy artillery.

Generals De la Tour and Kray were directed not to attack, till the village of Lambſhem, which formed a ſaliant point in the enemy's poſition, was carried. General Kray was then to begin, and General De la Tour, as ſoon as the right wing and centre began to form and cannonade the enemy's line, after the taking of Lambſheim, but not before, becauſe his attack muſt neceſſarily be ſo much facilitated by theſe movements.

The column that marched towards the wood of Frieſenheim was not to make a real attack till the villages of Flomerſheim and Epſtein were carried, and the attack upon Oggerſheim, which was to follow immediately upon theſe events, was taking a favourable turn. By theſe means, the troops in the wood of Frieſenheim would be turned on their left; at the ſame time that they were attacked in front, and of courſe obliged to abandon their poſition, without making that reſiſtance which they might otherwiſe have been enabled to do, from the nature of the ground.

The columns had ſome diſtance to march to their reſpective ſtations, ſo that it was eleven o'clock before the village of Lambſheim could be attacked. It was ſtormed with great bravery by two battalions, and the army began its formation immediately.

General Kray now reported, that the part of the enemy's army immediately oppoſed to him was ſo ſtrongly poſted, and ſo numerous, that he could neither attack them in front, nor turn their flank. As ſoon as the Marſhal received this report, he advanced with his right wing and centre towards the rivulet that covered the enemy's poſition; but he found the whole bottom, in which it runs, ſo extremely marſhy, and interſected with water-courſes, that he could only croſs it in three places, and with at moſt ſix men abreaſt. This he conſidered as too dangerous a manœuvre to attempt immediately under the fire of the enemy's batteries, and expoſed to the attacks of their cavalry as he was forming. Therefore he changed his diſpoſition; reinforced General De la Tour from his centre, and kept up a heavy cannonnade, puſhing at the ſame time two battalions, a ſmall body of cavalry, and a battery of heavy artillery acroſs the rivulet at two different points, as if he intended to croſs with the army; but giving orders to the troops, whom it was neceſſary to expoſe in this manner, not to advance after they had formed at the head of the defiles: This manœuvre had the deſired effect, by preventing the enemy from reinforcing their right, and it gave General De la Tour an opportunity of defeating them entirely on that wing. By the time it was duſk, he had carried all that part of their poſition; and if the action had happened at a ſeaſon of the year when the days are longer, the victory would have been of the moſt complete and brilliant nature: becauſe the enemy's centre and left could not poſſibly keep their ground after their right wing had given way, and the Auſtrian cavalry would have been able to attack them in their retreat, with the moſt decided advantage. However, the night coming on made this impoſſible; therefore General Pichegru effected his retreat behind the Reebach, (a rivulet that runs from Neuſtadt into the Rhine above Manheim) after having evacuated the works which form a protection to Manheim on the ſide of the river, and abandoned all communication with the garriſon.

Manheim is now cloſely inveſted, and the object of Marſhal Clairfayt's manœuvres, ſince he ſtormed the entrenched camp before Mayence, completely attained.

The Auſtrians had on this occaſion twenty-ſeven officers, and between ſeven and eight hundred men killed and wounded. They took between ſix and ſeven hundred priſoners, and ſix pieces of cannon.

The French loſs in killed and wounded was very great, according to all the reports of the deſerters and priſoners.

During

During the battle General Naundorff, who was poſted with a light corps upon the right of Gelheim, puſhed on ſtrong parties on the roads leading to Kaiſerſlautern.

Marſhal Clairfayt marches to-day, and encamps with his left to the Rhine above Manheim, his right to the mountains between Turkheim and Newſtadt.

General Pichegru's retreat has rendered his communication with General Jourdan more difficult.—The latter has advanced with part of his army towards General Wartenſleben, who is poſted behind the Nake rivulet, between Kreutzenach and Bingen; and on the 12th he attacked the poſt of Kreutzenach, but was repulſed with the loſs of a great number of men, and two pieces of cannon.

The firſt parallel before Manheim is opened at a very ſhort diſtance from the works, and the ſiege is carrying on with the utmoſt vigour. I have the honour to be, &c. C. CRAUFURD.

Extract of a letter from Charles Craufurd, Eſq; to Lord Grenville, dated head-quarters of General Wurmſer's army, near Manheim, Nov. 23.

I have the honour to inform your Lordſhip, that the Commandant of Manheim having, the night before laſt, ſent out an officer to General Wurmſer to propoſe terms for the ſurrender of the place, a capitulation was concluded yeſterday morning, by which it was agreed, that the garriſon ſhould march out with the uſual honours, lay down their arms on the glacis, and become priſoners of war.

As ſoon as the capitulation was ſigned, the Auſtrian troops occupied the outworks, and two of the gates of the town, viz. the Heidelberg and Rhine gates.

The garriſon marched out this morning, and the place was taken poſſeſſion of by General Wurmſer, in the name of his Imperial Majeſty, after a ſiege of only twelve days of open trenches.

The French troops, which by this event are become priſoners of war, conſiſt of ten half brigades, or thirty battalions of infantry, a proportionate corps of artillery, ſappers, miners, &c. and a ſquadron of huſſars, making in the whole four Generals, 389 officers, and 9949 non-commiſſioned officers and privates.

This great diminution of force muſt be ſeverely felt by the enemy, at a time when their armies are ſo weakened and diſpirited, and their ſtrength rapidly declining, by the immenſe deſertion which daily takes place.

The incloſed liſt of the garriſon of Manheim is a corroborating proof of the truth of the information that is received from all quarters upon this ſubject, as, of the ten half brigades, or thirty battalions of infantry, which, if complete, ought to amount to thirty thouſand men, the actual ſtrength is only eight thouſand three hundred and ſeventy-two. Their officers acknowledge, that they have long ſince ceaſed to receive any recruits.

Downing-Street, Dec. 19.

Diſpatches, of which the following are extracts, were received laſt night from Robert Craufurd, Eſq; by the Rt Hon. Lord Grenville, his Majeſty's Principal Secretary of State for the Foreign Department.

Head-Quarters of Marſhal Clairfayt's Army, Alzey, Dec. 2.

I Have the honour to inform your Lordſhip, that Marſhal Clairfayt, with that part of his army which, during the ſiege of Manheim, had been encamped between the Rhine and Neuſtadt, arrived on the 29th in the neighbourhood of Crentzenach, where it formed a junction with Gen. Wartenſleben's corps, and took nearly the ſame poſition that the latter has occupied for ſome time paſt, the right flank being at Bingen, the left on the heights behind Creutzenach and Furfeld, and the advanced poſts puſhed on behind the Nahe.

Gen. Kray, as ſoon as he was relieved from the poſt of Neuſtadt, directed his march towards Wolfſtein; from whence, after having received reinforcements from the army, he was to advance by Lautereck and Muiſſenheim to turn the right flank of the enemy, encamped near Zimmern, whilſt the main body of the army ſhould menace his front.

Gen. Kray could not arrive at Lautereck before the 1ſt inſtant. In the mean time Gen. Jourdan advanced with the army of the Sambre and Meaſe, conſiſting of about fifty-five thouſand men, drove back, on the 30th, the Auſtrian advanced piquets that were on the other ſide of the Nahe, and took a poſition oppoſite to that of Marſhal Clairfayt's army, his right flank being covered by one diviſion poſted behind Lautereck and Meiſſenheim on the Glaho; his centre and left extending along the banks of the Nahe on the Rhine. At Bingen, which is ſituated at the conflux of theſe two rivers, and on the right bank of the former, there is a ſtone bridge over the Nahe; but it is equally difficult for

for either party to undertake any thing on this quarter. From thence to Creutzenach, where there is a ſtone bridge, the nature of the ground is much more favourable for the enemy than for the Auſtrians, as the hills on the left bank, (that is, on the enemy's ſide) are very commanding, and cloſe to the Nahe; whereas, on the right bank there is a plain of conſiderable breadth, from which the heights riſe in ſo gradual a ſlope as to afford, in general, no poſition for the Auſtrian artillery near enough to defend the paſſages of the river, without being entirely commanded by the French batteries on the oppoſite ſide. Theſe circumſtances exiſt in a peculiar degree at Creutzenach itſelf; ſo much ſo, that infantry poſted on the hill, called the Schloſberg, on the left bank, can fire quite into the town and on to the bridge.

On the morning of the firſt inſt. the enemy were ſeen in very great force drawn up on the oppoſite hills. About nine o' clock a large body of infantry, ſupported by the fire of artillery very advantageouſly placed on the heights behind the town, advanced to attack Creutzenach: the Auſtrians defended it with great firmneſs; but the diſadvantages of the ſituation made it impoſſible for them to prevent the enemy's at length getting poſſeſſion of it, which happened about eleven o'clock. The Auſtrians, however, having re formed on this ſide of the town, advanced again, and attacked the French with ſo great bravery, that they preſently drove them quite over the bridge, and out of the place.

The enemy renewed the attack with a large body of freſh troops, and the Auſtrians in the town being extremely galled by the commanding fire of the French artillery, and by that of the infantry on the Schloſberg, and being unſupported by their own cannon (which, from the nature of the ſituation, could not be made uſe of,) they found it impracticable to maintain the poſt: they therefore abandoned it a ſecond time, and retired to the heights, bringing away the only piece of artillery that had been employed in the affair.

The enemy contented themſelves with occupying the bridge, and did not venture to ſhow themſelves on this ſide of the town.

The loſs of the Auſtrians, in this affair, amounts to near five hundred killed and wounded.

Fifty of the enemy were taken priſoners, and their loſs in killed and wounded muſt have been conſiderable.

They having been obliged to abandon the poſt of Creutzenach is not of any material conſequence, as the army maintains exactly the ſame poſition as before, excepting that the part of the line which is oppoſite that place is thrown a little back, in order to occupy the moſt commanding heights.

At the ſame time that the above-mentioned affair happened at Creutzenach, General Kray attacked and defeated a corps of the enemy at Lautereck, and entirely cut to pieces and took two whole battalions. The number of priſoners are eight officers and one hundred and fifty men. General Kray occupied Lautereck.

Head-quarters of Marſhal Clairfayt's Army Alzey, Dec. 5.

The ſituation of the Auſtrian armies on this ſide of the Rhine is at preſent as follows, viz.

Marſhal Clairfayt's behind the Nahe, from Bingen to the heights behind Volckſheim (near Creutzenach) and Furfeld. Two or three battalions at Alſentz and other villages on the left, to keep up the communication with Gen. Kray's corps, which is at Lautereck and Wolfſtein, and has lately been reinforced by ſome battalions from the army. Gen. Nauendorf is to march from Kayſerſlautern, which poſt, and thoſe dependent on it, as Franckenſtein, Nipſtedt, and Hockſpier, were this day occupied by a detachment of Gen. Wurmſer's army. Another ſtrong corps of that army extends from Neuſtadt, behind the Spierback and Rechbach, to the Rhine, occupying Speir, &c.

Frankfort, Dec. 2.

By accounts from the Auſtrian army it appears, that the enemy's loſs, in the battle of the 14th of November, amounted to about five thouſand men, beſides about ſeven hundred priſoners, and that twenty-two pieces of cannon, with above an hundred ammunition waggons, and ſome conſiderable magazines of different kinds, were taken by the Auſtrians; and other magazines, and numbers of ammunition waggons, deſtroyed by the enemy in their retreat.

Admiralty-Office, Nov. 24.

Extract of a letter from Admiral Sir J. Laforey, Bart. dated Martinico, Oct. 8.

On the 30th ult. the Vanguard, cruizing to windward of Deſeada, took a frigate belonging to the Convention of France, called the Superbe, mounting 22 guns,

guns, and 106 men, the reſt having been put into prizes, two of which ſhe had with her, viz. a Guineaman, which eſcaped, and a brig from Barbadoes, bound for Newfoundland, which was retaken.

Admiralty-Office, Dec. 12.

Copy of a letter from Capt. Luke, of his Majeſty's ſhip Caroline, to Evan Nepean, Eſq; in the North Seas: the Texel bearing S. S. E. 20 leagues.—Received the 11th inſtant without date.

You will be pleaſed to inform their Lordſhips, that his Majeſty's ſhip Caroline, under my command, part of Admiral Duncan's ſquadron, having diſcovered, on the 1ſt of December, two ſtrange ſail, bearing S. four leagues, the Admiral made our ſignal for chace: this happened about eight o'clock in the morning. At half paſt eleven, A. M. came within gun-ſhot, when we found the chace ſhewed French colours, and fired a ſhot to windward. The Caroline immediately fired, to bring her to, but ſhe hauled her wind from us, and fired a broad ſide. In the courſe of an hour, after firing ſeveral ſhot, ſhe ſtruck: ſhe proves to be the Pandora, a National brig, three days from Dunkirk, carrying 108 men, and mounting 14 ſix pounders. The other, named Le Septnie, mounting 12 four-pounders, got off while we were taking out the priſoners.

(*End of the Gazettes.*)

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

OPERATIONS ON THE RHINE.

THE ſucceſs of the Auſtrians on the 29th Oct. was improved by their Generals, and followed by a ſucceſſion of advantages over the enemy, who continued their retreat, leaving behind them great quantities of ſtores and artillery, the outrages and cruelty committed on the inhabitants were reſented by them in the ſevereſt manner. General Clairfayt taking advantage of this diſpoſition, put arms into their hands, and formed them into a body of militia. The events that did occur from this period to the 9th Nov. are detailed in Col. Craufurd's diſpatches, &c. *Vide Lond. Gaz. p. 799. et ſeq.*

On the morning of the 10th November a grand attack was made by the Auſtrian army on the French forces, which was reſiſted with obſtinate valour. General Pichegru who commanded, was compelled to fall back, after great loſs had been ſuſtained on both ſides. The iſſue of theſe ſevere actions, was the ſurrender of Worms, which the Imperialiſts entered on the 11th, the preventing the junction of the armies of Generals Jourdan and Pichegru, and the commencement of the moſt furious bombardment of the beautiful city of Manheim by the Auſtrians, the poſſeſſion of which city, is neceſſary for ſecuring their winter quarters. Kreutſnach, which had been attacked, carried by General Marceau, was retaken by the Auſtrians with the bayonet, Pichegru was driven from his poſition at Aggerſheim, behind the lines of Rehback.

Ratiſbon, Nov. 10. The three Colleges of the Empire came to a concluſion upon a letter from General Clairfayt, in which he calls upon the diet for immediate ſupport from the fund appropriated for the defence of the Empire, eſpecially as the late progreſs of the Imperial arms promiſes the happieſt conſequences. It was accordingly agreed that the arrears of tax of the Roman months ſhould be brought forward with diſpatch.

Citizen Swart, the Dutch ambaſſador at the Court of Peterſburgh, has ſent notice, that the Court of Ruſſia will not acknowledge that the republic is free and independent, as long as French troops ſhall remain in it; that on the contrary, it will be looked upon as a country conquered by the French, and on that very account, the ſaid court will not enter with the Dutch miniſter upon any meaſures, either commercial, or of any other nature

Immenſe reinforcements of men, proviſions, and ammunition, have been forwarded to the French armies in Italy, indicating their intention of ſupporting a winter campaign. Their fleet under Richery, which went into Cadiz, after capturing the Engliſh convoy from Gibralter, are cloſely blocked up by Admiral Mann, whoſe vigilance on that ſtation, begins to give uneaſineſs to the Spaniards.

It appears now, indubitably certain, that the cauſe of Charette, and the emigrants, is reduced to a ſtate altogether hopeleſs. An account from France gives the following detail:

General Hoche has attacked Charette; he has eſtabliſhed his army in diviſions in the interior of La Vendee, where Charette had been peaceable maſter during two years. Theſe diviſions occupy entrenched poſitions, ſecured from the inſults of the plunderers. The rebel peaſants can no longer aſſemble at the requiſition of Charette, and have reſolved to remain tranquil. Many of them have laid down their

arms.

arms. There remain with Charette only robbers, foreigners to La Vendee, to the number of twelve or fifteen hundred. They are diſperſed in ſeveral parts, and we deſtroy and kill them in detail: in ſhort, this war has taken the moſt ſatisfactory turn for the republic.

The unremitting ardour of Marſhal Clairfayt in purſuing his late ſucceſſes, cut off the communication of General Pichegru, with the fortreſs of Manheim, which ſurrendered to General Wurmſer, Nov. 23d, its garriſon then conſiſting of 10,000 men. For the particulars of the movements of the armies, *Vide Lond. Gaz.* p. 799. &c.

General Clairfayt afterwards continued to preſs General Pichegru, who, from diſertion and the loſs of artillery, was compelled to retreat from his poſts, as the Auſtrians advanced towards Landau. At this period, the accounts from Holland ſtate, that every appearance indicated the intention of the French to withdraw all their forces from that country, and that the hopes of the Stadtholder's party were become very ſanguine. Alarming ſymptoms of diſſaffection and diſquiet with their new allies, had appeared at Bruſſels, and in many places of Belgium, on hearing of the Auſtrian ſucceſſes on the Rhine.

They write from Conſtantinople, that great uneaſineſs prevails, from the apprehenſion, that, on the departure of the Turkiſh admiral from the Archipelago, the Malteſe corſairs will return and renew their depredations on our tranſports of proviſions from Egypt and Syria, on which is all our dependence againſt the approaching winter. This is a ſubject of much diſquiet to the people, who are already ſufficiently afflicted by the plague, which continues to increaſe and extend its ravages. There is no deſcription of perſons who have not been attacked, or in danger of being ſo. The houſes even of the foreign Miniſters have not eſcaped, notwithſtanding all their precautions. Baron Hubſch, the Daniſh charge d'affaires, has been obliged to retire to Bujukdere, on account of the peſtilence breaking out amongſt ſome of his domeſtics. The Spaniſh envoy has been obliged to do the ſame, and for the ſame reaſon. The people of Conſtantinople are in the extreme of miſery, and the frequent conflagrations that happen, ſerve to complete their wretchedneſs. The government furniſhes all the relief in its power to thoſe moſt liable to ſuffer by the famine. but it has ſeldom the means of affording them any effectual aſſiſtance.

WEST INDIES.

JAMAICA.

In conſequence of the proclamations iſſued by Lord Balcarras, for apprehending the Maroons, many of theſe banditti ſurrendered themſelves; which, it is hoped will enſure the peace of the iſland.

A plot of a dangerous nature being diſcovered at Port au Prince in St Domingo, martial law was proclaimed there. About the latter end of Auguſt, an expedition was made againſt Marebalais and Grandiſbois, two diſtricts infeſted by the Brigands, from whence they made frequent attacks on Port au Prince, Baron Montalembert, Colonel of a Britiſh legion, commanded the expedition, which was attended with the wiſhed-for ſucceſs. The capture is an event of the utmoſt importance for the general conqueſt of that iſland. Theſe two diſtricts contain 150 leagues in circumference, 490 plantations, and 12,000 negroes.

LONDON.

Nov. 12. The Jane ſloop, Capt. Pallot, arrived at Plymouth from Iſle Dieu, to which place ſhe carried ſupplies, from hence for General Doyle's army: ſhe left that place four day's ſince, at which time the troops were all healthy and in high ſpirits, and were buſily employed in erecting batteries and making entrenchments. They were much in want of proviſions, owing to the veſſels laden with ſupplies being ſo long detained here by contrary winds, as well as hay for the horſes, for the want of which, ſeveral of the latter were obliged to be ſhot. Several tranſports have been drove from their moorings, during the late heavy gales of wind, and received much damage; and great quantities of wreck were ſeen along the coaſt.

14. A French cartel ſhip arrived at Plymouth from Breſt, from whence ſhe brought 250 Engliſh priſoners, the major part of whom have been landed at Mevagiſſy.

17. At a meeting held at Guildhall, Mr Symes, according to notice, moved that a Petition be preſented to the Houſe of Commons, "praying they will take ſuch ſteps as they may deem neceſſary to prevent tumultuous and ſeditious meetings;" when he was moving the ſame—Mr Alderman Combe and Mr Phillips oppoſed it;

it; and the former moved an amendment, by leaving out all the words after the word "praying," and ſubſtituting the words, "that they will not paſs into a law, two bills now depending in that Houſe," intitled "An act for the more effectually preventing ſeditious meetings and aſſemblies," and "An act for the better preſervation of his Majeſty's perſon and government againſt treaſonable practices and attempts." On the amendment being put, it was negatived, on a diviſion, by a majority of 37, there being againſt it 82, and for it 45. The firſt queſtion, with the words "for a limited time," being added, was carried by a great majority. A committee was then appointed to draw up a petition, which they did, and it was unanimouſly agreed to.

A proteſt againſt the new treaſon bill paſſing in the Houſe of Lords, hath been made by the following Peers, viz. Bedford, Derby, Lauderdale, for the following reaſons. 1ſt, That the bill is founded on a falſe pretence. 2do, That the free diſcuſſion of the adminiſtration of government is thereby prevented. 3tio, becauſe of the extenſion of the treaſon laws, and the enacting of new miſdemeanours, ſo alarming to the ſecurity of the ſubject.

The late ſtorm on November 18, was moſt ſeverly felt by the fleet of tranſports, which lately ſailed with the armament for the Weſt Indies, three of the tranſports were totally loſt, and near four hundred perſons were drowned, many of the ſhips were much damaged, by which misfortune, the ſailing of the fleet, was for ſome time retarded. On hearing of the diſaſter, Mr Dundas and Lord Spencer went to Portſmouth, to give orders for the immediate repair of theſe loſſes, and to forward the expedition with as little delay as poſſible.—The number of troops on board was 16,179 effective men, beſides about 300 on the ſick liſt; moſt of whoſe complaints, however, were of a trivial nature.—The The fleet at Cork has 56 troops of diſmounted light cavalry, of 80 men in each troop; which, with Gen. Peryn's corps, which compriſes 3,000 men, chiefly Hungarians, with Iriſh officers, which were raiſed on the Continent, will make the whole force intended for the Weſt Indies amount to between 26,000 and 27,000 men. The horſes to be employed on this occaſion are moſtly Poliſh; all of which thrive amazingly on ſhip-board; they getting fat in a ſituation where other horſes generally pine and die.

The following is a letter from Weymouth, dated Nov. 26. The ſhore from hence to Abbotſbury, about ſeven miles diſtant, is ſtill covered with dead bodies, and parts of the wrecks hourly thrown up. Yeſterday nine bodies were thrown upon the beach by one tide, within the ſpace of a quarter of a mile; the violence of the ſea had torn every particle of cloathing off them, and from bruiſes, and lying ſo long in the water, they made the moſt ſhocking appearance. Part of the Glouceſter militia, aided by the peaſantry, are conſtantly employed in burying them. The number of ſufferers almoſt exceeds belief: upwards of ſixteen hundred bodies have been thrown up upon the beach. An officer of the Glouceſter militia ſtates, that he has aſſiſted at the burial of three hundred. The veſſels loſt in the Weſt Bay were ſeven in number, and ſuch was the fury of the waves, that ſeveral of the tranſports, heavily laden, were driven to the very ſummit of the beach, which is conſiderably higher than a common built houſe. Had the poor wretches continued on board, many more would have been ſaved; but ſuch was their agitation and fright, that, as ſoon as the veſſel ſtruck, they leaped overboard, and were exhauſted before they could reach the ſhore. A ſoldier of of the 63d reports, that previous to his quitting the tranſport, one of the officers of the regiment, who was lame and in bed, and conſcious of his not eſcaping death, met it with a moſt dignifyed conſtancy: he told the ſoldier, that from his ſtrength there was a chance of his ſafety, and told him how to huſband it to the beſt of his advantage, and then gave him his purſe and watch, which, he obſerved was of no longer uſe to him. Cap. Bearcroft, who commanded the detachment is drowned. One lady, miraculouſly preſerved, was wife to Cornet Burns, of the 26th light dragoons. On Tueſday his remains, together with thoſe of Lieutenant Kerr, of the 46th, with twenty-ſix others, were buried at Wick Church, about two miles from hence, with military honours, the Glouceſter militia, &c. attending.

At the time when this ſtorm happened, in ſeveral places of England, the ſhock of an earthquake was very ſenſibly felt. At Stamford, and the ſurrounding country, it ſeems to have operated in a line of 100 miles in length.

In the Weſtminiſter meeting, about the bills paſſing in Parliament anent ſeditious aſſemblies, Lord Hood ſuggeſted, that the proper mode was by parochial meetings; this

this has been very univerſally done, and reſolutions almoſt unanimouſly paſſed in diſapprobation of them. The number of petitions and counter petitions on this ſubject, ſent up to the Houſe of Commons, has ſeldom been equalled in any former occaſion.

25. Mr Pitt contracted for the loan of the enſuing year. The contractors are, Meſſ. Boyd and Co. Meſſ. Robarts, Curtis, and Co. Meſſ. Goldſmidt, and Mr Thelluſſon, ſen.—The loan is for eighteen millions ſterling, and the terms are as follow: for every 100l. ſterling the Miniſter gives

L. 120 3 per Cent. Conſols.
25 3 per Cent. Reduced.
6s. 6d. Long Annuity.

—The loan was only intended to have been for ſixteen millions; but a greater ſum has been borrowed, in order to pay the bounties on corn. The firſt payment is to be made on the 10th of December.

26. Admiral Duncan, with his ſquadron of ſhips, and the Ruſſian fleet, ſailed from the Downs for the North ſeas.

COURT OF KING'S BENCH.

20. Mr Yorke convicted of ſedition at the York aſſizes, was brought up to receive the judgement of the Court.

Mr Juſtice Lawrence, the junior judge, with a very audible and diſtinct voice, read the report of the proceedings in the Court below, and a copy of the evidence on which the priſoner was convicted. At the end of which the priſoner requeſted, from the indulgence of the Court, an enlargement of the time for arranging the arguments he intended to offer. He had very lately been removed to Newgate from the caſtle of York, where he had been long confined, and conſequently had not a ſufficiency of leiſure to adjuſt ſuch matters, as might be neceſſary in his preſent circumſtances. The Court granted this requeſt, and poſtponed its judgement to a future day.

Mr William Stone, indicted of high treaſon, was yeſterday produced in Court. The Attorney General, after a few previous words, moved for the reading of the copy of the priſoner's commitment by Lord Grenville and Mr Secretary Dundas; which was accordingly read. He then moved that it ſhould be filed; which being alſo granted, he next moved for the arraignment of the priſoner.

Mr Barlow, the Clerk of the Court, then read through the indictment, which was of ſuch length, as to occupy above three-quarters of an hour in the reading. It contained ſeveral counts, the ſubſtance of which was, "that Mr Stone had, with the aſſiſtance of perſons of the name of of Huddleſton and Jackſon, formed the deſign of procuring an invaſion of this kingdom and of Ireland, from France, for which purpoſe, he had tranſmitted information, money, &c. Mr Stone pleaded *not guilty* to the indictment. Counſel were then aſſigned to him.—They were, Mr Serjeant Adair and Mr Erſkine. The aſſiſtant counſel, we underſtand, are Mr Gibbs and a Mr Ward. On the motion of Mr Serjeant Adair, the trial, on account of the abſence of two material witneſſes, was, by the appointment of the Court, put off till the firſt Thurſday in the next term.

27. Mr Yorke received the ſentence of the Court, which was, that he be confined in the county gaol of Dorſet for the term of two years, pay a fine of 200l. and find ſureties for his good behaviour for ſeven years after the expiration of the two years, himſelf in 1000l. and two ſureties in 500l. each. Mr Yorke is a very genteel young man, a Creole, and rather of the Mullatto kind, was educated for the bar, and has great abilities. He is only 23 years of age.

In a late viſit to Briſtol, the Duke of York was received in the moſt loyal and flattering manner. He was preſented with the freedom of the city in a gold box.

The Newcaſtle, bound from Leith to Hamburgh, lately loſt on the coaſt of Jutland, had on board a great part of the baggage, belonging to Lord Elgin, all of which is loſt. The ſervants and crew ſaved themſelves by ſwimming to ſhore. In conſequence of this diſaſter, his Lordſhip's embaſſy to the court of Berlin is delayed for ſome time, as the books and valuable papers, which were entruſted to him by Government, are entirely loſt.

An embargo is laid on the exportation of grain, flour, and every other kind of proviſion, from the kingdom of Ireland, except to Great Britain, and his Majeſty's colonies. The embargo alſo extends to ſtarch and hair-powder, in which Great Britain is not excepted. The cauſe of this laſt is ſaid to be in conſequence of quantities of ſtarch having been lately ſhipped for the iſle of Man, &c.

Seven veſſels laden with wheat from Canada, came home with the convoy from Newfoundland, which they fell in with off the North Banks, and were enabled to keep company all the way.

Subſcriptions are opened in ſeveral parts of the country, to ſend out miſſionaries to

convert the inhabitants of the iſlands in the South ſeas to Chriſtianity. There is a committee eſtabliſhed in London, which have hired ſeveral young parſons for that purpoſe, and who, we underſtand, are now employed in learning the Otaheitean language, to qualify them for that laudable undertaking.

Dec. 6. Diſpatches are received from Lord Dorcheſter, at Quebec, giving an account of an inſurrection having broken out in ſeveral of the American States, which threatened the moſt alarming conſequences. The pretext was, the lately ratified treaty of amity and commerce between America and this country. Even the venerable character of the preſident has not protected him from oblique inſult, the populace having actually burnt him in effigy; it is however added, in the mail ſtatement, that theſe irregularities have been chiefly confined to ſuch places as always were ſtrongly tinctured with revolutionary principles, and ever were moſt actively oppoſed to the eſtablishment of the preſent ſyſtem of American government. Meanwhile, we are aſſured the more reſpectable of the mercantile intereſt, in all the States, approve of the treaty.

In conſequence of an advertiſement, announcing that the Correſponding Society propoſed to meet for the laſt time previous to the paſſing of Lord Grenville's and Mr Pitt's bills, now before parliament, an immenſe concourſe of people were drawn together in a field near Paddington. At one o'clock three tribunes, formed of drinking tables and benches from the Jews' Harp houſe, were crowded with orators, among the principal of which were Thelwall, Jones, Hodgſon, Binns, and Campbell Brown; the laſt being conſidered *pro forma*, as chairman, opened the buſineſs, which was to vote a *remonſtrance* to the King againſt the pending meaſures; adviſing him, moreover, to diſmiſs his miniſters; and an addreſs to the nation. The reading of theſe was followed by a ſtring of reſolutions declaratory of *the right of the people to arm*, but recommending *paſſive obedience!* Thanks were alſo voted to the members of both houſes of parliament who have ſtood moſt conſpicuouſly forward in oppoſing the bills. Every thing propoſed was of courſe carried unanimouſly by *acclamation*, though it was impoſſible that one tenth of the perſons preſent could hear what was read.

Our Government have ſent two commiſſaries to Calais, to demand the releaſe of of the emigrants, lately wrecked on that coaſt; a meaſure ſo humane we hope will be complied with.

7. A circular letter has been iſſued from the War office, to ſtop the further recruiting of the ſencible regiments, and to reduce the ſencible infantry in England to 500 men a regiment.

9. Admiral Chriſtian ſailed from St Helens, with the long intended armament for the Weſt Indies. The convoy conſiſted of a number of men of war with upwards of 200 ſail of tranſports.

The True Briton, and other ſhips laſt arrived from China, having in the month of Auguſt, touched at Batavia, bring advice, that the Dutch force at that ſettlement was very much reduced by ſickneſs and death, the garriſon of that city not exceeding 200 Europeans effective, and not more than 300 native troops; and that a ſimilar reduction had taken place among their ſeamen, as, although there were ſeven men of war lying in the road, of which two were of ſixty-four guns, they had not, in the whole, more than 400 Europeans fit for duty. While the Engliſh ſhips lay there, a Dutch frigate arrived from the Cape of Good Hope, with the news of Admiral Elphinſtone being arrived there; but owing to the weak ſtate of the Dutch force, our four Indiamen were ſuffered to depart unmoleſted.

DEFICIENCY OF WHEAT.

The réports from the Corn committee, in the Houſe of Commons, though not ſo full and ſatisfactory as the members could have wiſhed, regarding the real ſtatement of the produce of laſt year's crop, are ſuch as call upon the community at large, to obſerve the ſtricteſt œconomy in the uſe of that article, particularly where wheat is uſed, the produce of which is moſt defective. To reduce the conſumption of this grain, they have ſubmitted regulations to be voluntarily ſigned by the members, and by men of all deſcriptions throughout the nation.

The following are the leading points on which the gentlemen of the Secret Committee of the Houſe of Commons reſt the propoſitions laid before the Houſe, for guarding againſt the probable conſequences of the preſent apparent deficiency of wheat.

The Select Committee have received, ſince their firſt report, a conſiderable number of returns, made by the Cuſtos Rotulorum of the different counties, reſpecting the ſtate of the laſt crop; together with much additional intelligence upon that ſubject com-

communicated by many of their members. They find it however impoſſible as yet to draw, either from theſe returns or from any other quarter, a preciſe concluſion. The returns are ſo incomplete in their number, and are founded upon ſo many different principles, ſome ſtating the whole quantities of grain produced, others the number of acres ſown, and others again the average produce of each acre; and drawing, in ſome inſtances, a compariſon with the crop of laſt year, in other caſes with that of certain preceding years, and with others what is generally called a fair crop; that it is extremely difficult to combine and compare them, ſo as to ſtate accurately the reſult of the whole.

Your committee would have endeavoured to render this inveſtigation more complete, if they had not felt the great importance of ſuggeſting, without further delay, ſuch meaſures as have occurred to them, for alleviating an evil which evidently exiſts to ſuch an extent as to call for the moſt effectual remedy.

From the beſt conſideration of ſuch information as they have hitherto obtained, they ſhould not feel themſelves authorized in aſſuming, as the ground of any opinion they may offer, that the deficiency of the crop of wheat is leſs than from 1-6th to 1-5th, compared with the crop of laſt year, and from 1-4th to 1-5th, compared with an average crop. The crop of rye, of which no great quantity is uſually grown, may probably be conſidered as equally deficient: but the crops of barley and oats are repreſented to be nearly double thoſe of 1794, and at leaſt 1-5th better than an average crop.

It appears alſo, from the concurrent teſtimony of intelligent perſons, that the ſtock of wheat in hand at the commencement of the laſt harveſt was much leſs than at the ſame period of the preceding year; and there is alſo reaſon to believe, that a larger quantity has been uſed for ſeed in the preſent ſeed time than in the laſt. One of the cauſes of the extreme high price which prevailed antecedent to the laſt harveſt, was generally ſuppoſed to be the very exhauſted ſtate to which the ſtock of the country had been then reduced. In order to avoid a repetition of this evil, to the ſame or to a much greater extent (if the ſucceeding crop ſhould, from unfavourable ſeaſons, be later or leſs productive than uſual) it is certainly extremely deſirable that the ſtock remaining in the country, at the commencement of the next harveſt, ſhould be more adequate to the demand than what remained this year at a ſimilar period. Whatever is neceſſary for this purpoſe, ought therefore to be added to the amount of the deficiency.

ASSIZE OF BREAD.

The following is the ſubſtance of the reſolutions by the Committee of the Houſe of Commons, appointed to examine the ſeveral laws now in being, relative to the aſſize of bread.

Your committee do find, that from time immemorial, and in all times, to the 31ſt year of the reign of George the Second, there was in all aſſize tables, made under the law, a wheaten bread made of flour the whole produce of the wheat, the ſaid flour weighing, on an average, three-fourths of the weight of the wheat whereof it was made.

Your committee are informed, and do find, that ſuch flour doth contain the whole nutrition or ſuſtenance of the wheat, and that ſuch is the beſt medium ſtandard and the moſt proper which can be introduced for bread in common uſe. Reſolved, "That it is the opinion of this committee, that if the magiſtrates were by law permitted (when and where they ſhall think fit to ſet an aſſize on bread,) to introduce again, under certain regulations and reſtrictions, the old ſtandard bread made of flour, which is the whole produce of the wheat, the ſaid flour weighing, on an average, three-fourths of the wheat whereof it is made, it would tend to prevent many inconveniencies which have ariſen in the aſſize and making of bread for ſale." Reſolved, "That it is the opinion of this committee, that the columns calculated for the wheaten bread, in the now repealed tables of the act of the 8th of Queen Anne, intitled, "*An act to regulate the price and aſſize of bread*," would be the proper aſſize for ſaid ſtandard wheaten bread, containing the whole flour of the wheat, (the ſaid flour weighing, on an average, three-fourths of the weight of the ſaid wheat), would upon a medium, contain one pound of bread in eight more than the twelve-penny loaf of the preſent wheaten bread, made under the act of the 31ſt of George II."

Your committee beg leave to ſubmit this ſuggeſtion to the wiſdom of the Houſe; and they hope it will not be thought beyond the line of their duty, if, upon an occaſion ſo urgent in point of time, they preſume alſo to ſuggeſt the principal points which ſuch an engagement ought, in their humble opinion, to embrace:

T,

To reduce the conſumption of wheat in the families of the perſons ſubſcribing ſuch engagement, by at leaſt one third of the uſual quantity conſumed in ordinary times.

In order to effect this purpoſe, either to limit to that extent the quantity of fine wheaten bread conſumed by each individual in ſuch families; Or, to conſume only mixed bread, of which not more than two thirds ſhall be made of wheat; Or, only a proportionable quantity of mixed bread of which more than two thirds is made of wheat; Or, a proportional quantity of bread made of wheat alone, from which no more than five pounds of bran is excluded. And, if it ſhould be neceſſary, in order to effect the purpoſe of this engagement, to prohibit the uſe of wheaten flour in paſtry, and to diminiſh, as much as poſſible, the uſe thereof in other articles than bread.

By one or more of theſe meaſures, or by any other which may be found equally effectual, and more expedient and practicable, in the reſpective ſituations of perſons ſubſcribing, to enſure to the utmoſt of their power, the reduction abovementioned. This engagement to continue in force until fourteen days after the next Seſſion of Parliament, unleſs the average price of wheat ſhall, before that time, be reduced to an amount to be ſpecified.

Agreement reſpecting the Quality and Conſumption of Bread, acceded to by the Houſe of Commons.

"We the underſigned, impreſſed with a ſenſe of the evils which may be experienced by his Majeſty's ſubjects in conſequence of the deficient ſupply of wheat, unleſs timely and effectual meaſures are taken to reduce the conſumption thereof, within ſuch limits as may prevent the preſſure of actual ſcarcity previous to the next harveſt, may ſecure, as far as poſſible, the neceſſary ſubſiſtence of the people of this kingdom, until it ſhall pleaſe Divine Providence to reſtore the bleſſings of general plenty; do hereby jointly and ſeverally pledge ourſelves, in the moſt ſolemn manner, to execute and maintain, to the utmoſt of our power, the following reſolutions: And alſo moſt earneſtly to recommend the ſame to be adopted in our reſpective neighbourhoods:

We will reduce the conſumption of wheat in our families, by at leaſt one-third of the uſual quantity conſumed in ordinary times.

In order to effect this reduction, either we will limit to that extent the quantity of fine wheaten bread uſed by each individual in our families—we will conſume therein only mixed bread, of which no more than two-thirds ſhall be made of the wheat; or we will conſume only a proportionate quantity of mixed bread, of which no more than two-thirds is made of wheat, or a proportionate quantity of bread made of wheat alone, from which no more than five pounds bran per buſhel is excluded (if it ſhall be neceſſary for the purpoſe of this engagement) we will prohibit in our families the uſe of wheaten flour in paſtry, and diminiſh as much as poſſible, the uſe thereof in other articles than bread, or by ſome one or more of theſe meaſures, or by any other which may be found equally effectual, and more expedient and practicable in our reſpective ſituations: We will, to the utmoſt in our power, inſure the reduction above-mentioned, of at leaſt one-third of the quantity of wheat uſually conſumed in our families in ordinary times.

This engagement ſhall remain in force until fourteen days after the next ſeſſion of Parliament, unleſs the average price of wheat in the whole kingdom ſhall be reduced before that time to 8s. the Winchester buſhel: And we do earneſtly recommend to our fellow ſubjects to adopt and ſtrictly adhere to the ſame."

[*This agreement having been preſented to the Lords, at a conference, was adopted by their Lordſhips, and agreed to afterwards by the court of common-council of the city of London.*]

WASTE LANDS.

The following are the reſolutions of the Board of Agriculture on the 20th November, on which Sir John Sinclair's motion was founded:

Reſolved,

I. That it appears to this Board, from the returns made of the ſtate of agriculture in the different counties, that a very conſiderable proportion of the territory of the united kingdom ſtill remains waſte and unproductive, though capable of great improvement; and it is the opinion of the Board, that the preſent ſcarcity and high price of proviſions call moſt forcibly for every poſſible encouragement, that can be the means of bringing ſuch extenſive tracts of land into a ſtate of cultivation.

II. That the improvement of theſe lands would be greatly facilitated, by a general law, to render the diviſion and drainage thereof leſs troubleſome and expenſive; the neceſſity of applying for private acts being the chief obſtacle, and amounting, in

in many inſtances, to a prohibition of ſo eſſential an improvement.

III. That it is expedient, that application be made to parliament, to take under its conſideration the beſt mode of encouraging the improvement of ſuch lands, as one of the moſt effectual means of providing for an increaſed population, giving an employment to the induſtrious and labouring poor, and preventing future ſcarcity.

IV. That, in the opinion of this Board, ſuch an application has become peculiarly neceſſary at this time, as the lands now in cultivation, have been found, on an average of ſeveral years paſt, inadequate to the conſumption of the kingdom; and that ſuch an encouragement of agriculture as is here recommended, might not only be the means of raiſing a ſufficient quantity of bread corn for home conſumption, but alſo of providing a ſurplus, and preventing the precarious ſituation of depending on foreign countries for the national ſubſiſtence.

V. That the preſident be requeſted to move, in the Houſe of Commons, for the appointment of a committee to take the above important ſubject into conſideration; and that the Board do lay before the Committee that may be appointed for that purpoſe, all the information that it has been able to collect, in regard to the waſte and unproductive lands of the kingdom.

EDINBURGH.

The imaginary dawn of peace, which for a while enlightened the political horizon of Europe, has at once (the evaneſcent vapour of a moment) diſappeared, and all is again involved in darkneſs and doubt.

It appears the French ſtill look with confidence to the eſtabliſhment of their frontiers on the left bank of the Rhine, and the Emperor ſeems determined to hazard every thing to drive them back within their original boundaries. Looking, however, upon the efforts which are making on both ſides, it may be eaſily foreſeen, that the approaching conflict, though dreadful, cannot laſt long, and a peace, before another campaign elapſes, muſt eventually enſue, much more diſgraceful to one or the other party perhaps, than if made at the preſent moment.

Nov. 30. The Houſe of Lords heard Counſel upon the appeal from the Court of Seſſion, in which the Hon. Archibald Frazer of Lovat was appellant, and his Majeſty's Advocate and the Truſtees of the late Simon Frazer of Lovat, reſpondents. This was an appeal taken from a decree pronounced as far back as 1751, reſpecting a claim entered by Mr Frazer to the forfeited eſtate of Lovat. The appeal was diſmiſſed as irregular and incompetent.

Dec. 5. As two men belonging to Milton printfield were returning from Balfron, through Dumbarton Muir, they unfortunately loſt their way, owing to a thick miſt, when one of them periſhed; the other is in a very enfeebled ſtate.

There is at preſent a poor man living at Broughtown, near Edinburgh, who has been twice married, and is father of *twenty-four* children, *eleven* ſons and *thirteen* daughters.

It is ſettled, purſuant to a propoſition made by his Majeſty's privy council, and accepted by Monſieur, Count d'Artois, that his Highneſs, as well as his ſon, the Duke of Angouleme who is ſtill with Lord Moira, and ſuit, ſhould reſide in the Palace of Holyroodhouſe.

21. This day all the French priſoners in the caſtle were embarked on board a cartel ſhip, now in Leith Roads, bound for Calais, to be exchanged for an equal number of Britiſh priſoners. They marched from the caſtle in the forenoon, and appeared very happy at being releaſed from their long confinement.

Twelve reſpectable farmers and corn-dealers have agreed to furniſh 11,000 ſtones of oatmeal for the town of Dumfries, at 2s. 2d. per ſtone, on or before the 1ſt of March next.

About 72 ſail of tranſports are put in at Shields by contrary winds, with the 1ſt, 2d, and 5th dragoon guards; the 2d and 5th dragoons; 7th, 8th, and 15th light dragoons, from the Weſer, after a paſſage of four days.

A gold mine has been diſcovered in Ireland and a rich ſpecimen has been preſented to his Majeſty. Great expectations are formed of it. Many country people had conſiderably enriched themſelves with pieces got in the brooks. We hope ſoon to be able to lay a more particular account of it before our readers.

Addreſſes have been preſented to his Majeſty from almoſt all the public bodies of the kingdom. We preſent our readers with two of them as ſpecimens, viz. the firſt from the city of Edinburgh, the other from the Royal Edinburgh Volunteers.

To

Unto the KING's Moſt Excellent Majeſty,

The humble Addreſs of the Right Hon. the Lord Provoſt, Magiſtrates, and Council of the City of Edinburgh.

SIRE,

STRUCK with aſtoniſhment, as we are, at the late audacious inſult committed on your Majeſty's perſon, which is, by our excellent conſtitution, juſtly deemed ſacred and inviolable, we now approach your throne, eager to teſtify at once our reſpect, our eſteem, and veneration for our beloved Sovereign, and the deteſtation we feel of that moſt attrocious attempt which has been made on your perſon and authority.

Abhorrent as we are, of the wicked but contemptible hands who were the inſtruments of that inſult, this ſentiment in our breaſts is feeble, when compared with the rooted deteſtation we feel of thoſe men, unworthy of the name of Britons, whoſe principles and doctrines, hoſtile to all good government and civil ſubordination, have a direct tendency to inflame the minds and poiſon the felicity of a loyal, a well affected, a free, and a moſt happy people. Of ſuch, it is our fervent prayer, that the malevolent deſigns may ever be fruſtrated by the wiſdom of a good Providence and our own loyal and ſpirited exertions.

Conſidering this nefarious outrage as a ſignal for all good men to rally round that conſtitution, thus attempted to be violated in the perſon of its firſt Magiſtrate, we devote, with true patriotiſm, our hearts, our hands, our property, and all we hold valuable as members of ſociety, to the preſervation of that glorious fabric, and, what we deem its beſt ſecurity, the ſafety of your Majeſty's life and the maintenance of that dignity and reſpect juſtly annexed to your great office.

And in this noble purpoſe, Sire, it is our pride and our comfort to think that we ſpeak not as individuals, but utter the unanimous ſenſe of that large and reſpectable community, the metropolis of this part of the united kingdoms, whom we have the honour to repreſent.

Signed and ſealed by our appointment, and in our preſence, this 6th day of November, in the year 1795.

JAMES STIRLING, Provoſt.

ADDRESS OF THE ROYAL EDINBURGH VOLUNTEERS.

Moſt Gracious Sovereign,

WE, your dutiful and loyal ſubjects, your Edinburgh Volunteers, humbly beg leave to expreſs our moſt hearty congratulations on your providential eſcape from the attrocious attempt lately made on your royal perſon, and to aſſure your Majeſty of our unſhaken attachment to your perſon, to your family, and the happy conſtitution of our country.

While we regard with horror that attempt, we conſider it as a proof, that thoſe traitors who contrived it, know that, in your Majeſty's life, conſiſts the firſt and ſureſt ſafeguard of that free and happy government which they ſeek to overthrow; and which we, and thouſands more of your peaceful ſubjects, are aſſociated in arms to ſupport. To ſupport and defend it againſt all foreign and domeſtic foes ſhall ever be our pride, as it is our duty.

Signed in the field, in our preſence, and at our requeſt, by

JAMES STIRLING, Colonel.

The following correſpondence has taken place between the Hon. Henry Erſkine, and ſeveral members of the Faculty of Advocates.

To the MEMBERS *of the Faculty of* ADVOCATES, *not reſident in Edinburgh.*

GENTLEMEN, *Prince's Street, Dec.* 1.

The diſtance of your reſidence, and my ignorance of the proper addreſs to many of you, obliges me to take this method of communication.

I yeſterday received a letter from the following gentlemen, Members of the Faculty:—

John Pringle Eſq; Allan Maconochie, Eſq; Neil Ferguſſon, Eſq; Robert Craigie, Eſq; Charles Hope, Eſq; James Oſwald, Eſq; David Hume, Eſq; and David Boyle, Eſq; Advocates.

Of which LETTER the following is a Copy:

SIR, *Edinburgh, Dec.* 1.

It gives us very great pain to find ourſelves called upon, by the ſentiments we entertain of what becomes us as good ſubjects, to tranſmit to our brethren a letter, of which a copy is encloſed. But we ſhould feel ſtill more unpleaſantly if we were not perſuaded you have two much candour not to aſcribe this meaſure to its true cauſe, and believe that, in point of perſonal regard, we remain your friends and well-wiſhers.

We have the honour to be

Your moſt obedient humble Servants,

JOHN PRINGLE. CHA. HOPE.
A. MACONOCHIE. JAMES OSWALD.
NEIL FERGUSSON. DAVID HUME.
RO. CRAIGIE. DAVID BOYLE.

The

The following is the circular LETTER referred to in the above:

SIR, *Edinburgh, Dec.* 1.

We take the liberty of addreſſing you, as a Member of the Faculty of Advocates, upon a matter which appears to us very nearly to concern the reputation of that Learned and Honourable Body; we mean the election of the perſon who ſhall preſide over them as Dean for the enſuing year.

It will, Sir, be obvious to you, that the ſentiments and principles of the Members of the Faculty, relative to thoſe great national and conſtitutional intereſts, which, unhappily have, for ſome years, been ſo much the ſubjects of anxiety to all loyal citizens, muſt, in a great meaſure, be judged of from the conduct of the perſon who, by their annual and voluntary choice, is raiſed to the high ſtation of Head of the Bar, and of their Society.

In this view, with which we are ſtrongly impreſſed, we beg leave to preſs it on your ſerious attention, whether the late political conduct, and public appearances, of the preſent Dean of Faculty, on occaſion of the bills now depending in Parliament, for the better preventing of ſeditious aſſemblies, have been ſuch as merit their approbation, or render him the moſt proper perſon that can be found in the Faculty, to repreſent them to the world, and to ſuſtain their character of attachment to the laws and conſtitution of their country.

The Lord Advocate has been propoſed by a great number, as a perſon who, in this, and in all reſpects, is fit to be confided in, and worthy of the honour; and hoping that, along with us, you may view him as a proper ſucceſſor, we requeſt your preſence on the day of election, which is the 12th day of January next.

We are, Sir,

Your moſt obedient humble Servants,

JOHN PRINGLE. DAVID HUME.
A. MACONOCHIE. CHA. HOPE.
NEIL FERGUSSON. JAMES OSWALD.
RO. CRAIGIE. DAVID BOYLE.

And the following is my ANSWER to the above recited LETTER:

GENTLEMEN, *Edinburgh, Dec.* 1.

I Have this moment received your letter. Whatever ſentiments I may entertain of the political motives it avows, I am bound to acknowledge the perſonal kindneſs it expreſſes towards myſelf. The propriety of making the communication, *after* having canvaſſed many of the Faculty (a fact to which I am no ſtranger), I leave to your own feelings.

I had the honour (and I reckoned it the higheſt honour of my life) to be elected Dean of the Faculty of Advocates, at a time when, along with ſeveral of thoſe who now compoſe his Majeſty's Cabinet, I oppoſed the adminiſtration of Mr Pitt, on principles of which it is my greateſt pride to reflect, that no view of perſonal intereſt, no fear of perſonal conſequences, have ever induced me for a moment to ſwerve. The utmoſt intereſt of Government was exerted to defeat my election: but the Faculty were free and independent. Their ſpirit reſiſted undue influence, and I was placed at your head by a decided majority.

It would be preſumption in me to ſay that my conduct, ever ſince, has deſerved your approbation: but to what elſe can I impute your having, ten ſucceſſive years, re-elected me *unanimouſly* to the ſame honourable ſituation?

I am bound to give you credit for the motives which you ſay have induced you to take a ſtep, unprecedented in the annals of the Faculty. I was originally elected in conſequence of perſonal ſolicitation. It would have been arrogance in me to have expected to attract your choice, without my expreſſing the honourable ambition I felt to preſide amongſt you. I ſhall not now deſcend to ſolicitation. To the Faculty, my character, my conduct as a gentleman, as a brother, are known. If a majority of your number, departing from the uniform ſentiments of our body, to exclude political diſcuſſions and conſiderations from amongſt us, ſhall withdraw from me their ſuffrages at the enſuing election, I may regret; but I am proud to ſay, the *cauſe* of their doing ſo, I ſhall ever reckon my higheſt honour.

Deſcended from anceſtors, whoſe exertions contributed to bring about the glorious Revolution, which ſecured the liberties of my country, which placed the preſent illuſtrious family on the throne, and the principles of which, I truſt, ſhall preſerve it there to the lateſt poſterity, it is my pride and glory to have come forward at this alarming period, to preſerve thoſe liberties from invaſion:—to have done ſo, along with many of the moſt noble and illuſtrious characters in the kingdom, alongſt with the united voice of all the public bodies, and the great maſs of the inhabitants of the metropolis of the nation, and of the great majority of its counties and cities; but, above all, with the unbiaſſed, the uncorrupted dictates of my own conſcience.

If ſuch conduct, reſulting from ſuch mo-

motives, unfits me, *in your opinion*, any longer to fill the chair of the Faculty, you will act as you see fit. If such shall be the opinion of the majority of my brethren; if they are determined that there shall no longer be amongst us freedom of political opinion; if party prejudice and violence are to usurp the place of moderation, of personal respect, and of private friendship, I can only say, that such was not the Faculty of Advocates when I was first honoured with the situation I now enjoy.—To have received it was a high honour. I shall consider it as still a higher honour to lay it down. For, in my opinion, the highest honour that can be enjoyed by a virtuous mind is,—the reflection of having allowed no personal consideration to stand between it and the firm, manly, and independent performance of public duty.

I am,

Gentlemen,

Your most obedient humble servant,

HENRY ERSKINE.

To John Pringle, A. Maconochie, Neil Ferguſſon, Robert Craigie, David Hume, Charles Hope, Ja. Oſwald, and David Boyle, Eſquires, Advocates.

I feel myself called upon, in justice to myself, to communicate these letters to you. I submit the sentiments therein contained to your judgement and feelings, and that manly and independent spirit which has hitherto characterised the Faculty of Advocates, trusting that the period of its extinction is not yet arrived.

I have the honour to be, with the greatest respect and regard,

Gentlemen,

Your most obedient humble servant,

HENRY ERSKINE.

SIR, *Edinburgh, Dec.* 2.

We have had the honour of your letter, in answer to ours of yesterday.

We do not intend to enter on any detailed justification of the measure, to which, not without much reluctance, we have found ourselves constrained to resort. If it be, as you say it is, an unprecedented measure, it is at least not more so than that situation of the country, and those proceedings, Sir, on your part as Dean of Faculty, which have given occasion to our interference. But our brethren of the Faculty, and the public at large, are fully acquainted with those circumstances of your behaviour—at the Circus, and in the previous meetings, upon which our resolution has been grounded; and they will judge between us, probably with very little regard to any encomium which we might chuse to pass upon ourselves, respecting the purity of our motives, and the tendency of our line of conduct.

There are but two things in your letter to which we think it necessary to reply. The one is a misconception which runs throughout it; as if the matter at issue between us were a matter of *politics* (in the vulgar sense of the word,) or of attachment to this or t'other set of men, as candidates for public favour and preferment.

Sir, we solemnly declare to you, and to our brethren of the Faculty, that it is no such mean question. The interest now at stake, is nothing less than this, Whether the happy government and constitution of these realms shall stand or fall? and what our brethren have to consider is, whether it be consistent with their honour, or their duty, that the Dean of the Faculty of Advocates, that body which ought to be the firmest bulwark of the laws, should act the part of a demagogue, in agitating the ignorant and giddy multitude, and cherishing such humours and dispositions as, in our opinion, directly tend to overturn them? To those of the body who are in town, the part you have taken on occasion of the bills now depending in parliament, for the prevention of such calamity, is sufficiently known. Those who reside in the country will, it is hoped, take the trouble of informing themselves before they decide: we leave it to them to recollect the truth, not from our report, but from their own inquiries, which we doubt not will do justice both to us and you.

The other point to which we shall reply, is a reflection on our own personal conduct, in the management of this opposition to you. Before engaging in any general canvass of the Members of the Faculty, either in or out of town, we no doubt thought it proper to converse upon the subject, with such of our brethren, whose sentiments and principles on political subjects we knew to coincide in general with our own, and to assure ourselves of their approbation of the measure which we had in view. And in this we cannot imagine that any thing was done, either improper in itself, or unworthy of our character as gentlemen, or of the cause in which we are engaged. Certainly it would have been equally arrogant and absurd, for us to have obtruded such a proposal on the Faculty, without previous trial of the disposition of those gentlemen with respect to it. But, from the time when a general canvass was resolved

on,

on, we alſo ſaw the propriety of acquainting you with our purpoſe; which reſolution was accordingly executed by the letter, which we had the honour of diſpatching to you nearly twelve hours before a letter was delivered to any other gentleman at the bar.

We have only to add, that here the correſpondence between us ends. We have fairly brought the matter before the Faculty; and it belongs to them, and not to us, to judge of what is neceſſary for the vindication of their honour. We have no deſire to publiſh a pleading or manifeſto to the world on this ſubject.

We have the honour to be reſpectfully,
Your very obedient moſt humble ſervants,
(Signed as before.)

Dec. 3.

Since writing the letter which accompanies this, we have been informed, that a report has gone abroad that the meaſure to which it relates, is diſapproved of by the perſon who is propoſed as ſucceſſor to the Dean. We are authoriſed to contradict this report.

(Signed as before.)

Edinburgh, 5th Dec.

To the Faculty of Advocates.

GENTLEMEN,

I Have received, and there has been printed and circulated amongſt you, another letter, from the eight members of the Faculty, whoſe former letter, with my anſwer, are already before you. They have deſired that the correſpondence between us ſhould end, and have effectually ſecured this wiſh, by writing to me in a tone, and language, to which my ſenſe of what becomes me will not permit me to reply. It is to you, therefore, gentlemen, to your juſtice and liberality alone, that I ſhall now addreſs myſelf; leaving it to you to judge of the propriety of the oppoſition, and of their right, when addreſſing you, to reſt the ſafety of the conſtitution, and the exiſtence of the ſtate, on the political views of the adminiſtration to which they are attached; and not only to brand me with a deſign to overturn the laws, but to implicate in the charge the many diſtinguiſhed characters, and indeed the great body of the nation, who have oppoſed the bills in queſtion as a dangerous and unneceſſary innovation on the *exiſting* laws, and deſtructive of our *eſtabliſhed* government and conſtitution.

If, under this conviction, to have uſed my conſtitutional right to petition the legiſlature:—If to have joined in this meaſure with thouſands of my countrymen, of every rank and deſcription:—If to have been unable to ſee, or yet to comprehend, the diſtinction attempted to be made between perſons in my own ſituation, and what theſe gentlemen are pleaſed to term the ignorant and giddy multitude, as to the rights which the Great Charter of the Britiſh Conſtitution beſtows on all without diſtinction:—If to have concurred with ſome of the moſt reſpectable of the petitioners here, in occaſionally attending to ſee the ſignatures of the great numbers who repaired to the place appointed for ſubſcribing, fairly taken down:—If, tho' well entitled to have ſtated to all of them my opinion of theſe bills, I left them to learn it from the petitions themſelves:—If, anxious to avoid any agitation in their minds beyond what their own feeling of the object might occaſion, I, towards the cloſe of the ſubſcription* (the only time I ever addreſſed them,) commended their quiet and orderly behaviour, exhorted them to perſevere in the ſame peaceable deportment, and thereby to give no perſon a pretence for to throw blame on the conſtitutional act they had then performed:—In ſhort, if a conſcientious feeling of what I conceive to be right;—if a manly and independent declaration of my ſentiments, without regard to perſonal conſiderations, ſhall meet with your diſapprobation:—and, if an unabated regard for the intereſt and privileges of the Faculty, and a grateful ſenſe of the honour you have for ten ſucceſſive years conferred upon me, ſhall prove inſufficient to preſerve your eſteem, I muſt ſubmit to loſe it;—but I thank God, conſcious of having done my duty, I ſhall preſerve my own:—I know I ſhall retain that of many worthy members of our body; and I truſt for the increaſed regard of the public to that candour, liberality, and generoſity, that abhorrence of all perſecutions for opinions, which are the nobleſt features of the Britiſh character; and the certain deſtruction which will, in my mind, be one of the dreadful conſequences of the bills I oppoſe.

I have the honour to be,
With the utmoſt gratitude and reſpect,
Gentlemen,
Your moſt obedient and faithful ſervant,
HENRY ERSKINE.

* The period here alluded to was after the date of the letter from the eight gentlemen to the Faculty, and of both their letters to the Dean.

HIGH COURT OF JUSTICIARY.

The Court having ordered informations in the caſe of *James Niven*, indicted for firing a cannon in Libberton's wynd in the month of June laſt, by which Mr Knox late gown-keeper to the Faculty of Advocates was killed, their Lordſhips delivered their opinions upon the pleadings and informations, in which they unanimouſly agreed—that if it appeared from the proof, that the priſoner loaded the cannon, it amounted to the crime of murder; if he did not load it, it was only culpable homicide, They therefore found the charge of murder in the libel relevant to infer the pains of death; and the charge of culpable homicide relevant to infer an arbitrary puniſhment.

Very few witneſſes were examined, the fact of Niven having both loaded and fired the cannon which unfortunately deprived Mr Knox of life, never have been denied, either by the pannel himſelf, or by his counſel. The principal object of inveſtigation was, to diſcover, if poſſible, whether Niven knew, previous to the diſcharge of the piece, that it contained the bit of iron afterwards extracted from the body of Mr Knox. The next object was to determine, on the ſuppoſition that Niven knew nothing of any thing being in the cannon but powder, paper, and ſome tobacco, how far the death of a fellow creature having enſued, the accident ſhould be conſidered as merely *caſual*, and the perſon guilty of it liable to no puniſhment; or, whether he ſhould not rather be held as perpetrating the crime of *culpable homicide*, and ſubject to an arbitrary puniſhment on that account.

Mr Soliciter General addreſſed the jury in a very able manner, diſcuſſing, with great clearneſs and preciſion, how the law ſtood with reſpect to the three points above mentioned. He admitted, with much candour and humanity, his own belief, that the pannel was entirely ignorant of any thing being in the cannon but powder, paper, and tobacco; and, though there was no proof in what manner the piece of iron got into it, he was perſuaded it had happened by a part of the rod having broke off, and remained in the cannon, unknown to the pannel, owing to the violence with which he rammed home the charge, by uſing a hammer for that purpoſe. Mr Solicitor General, therefore, was of opinion, that the jury would feel themſelves happily relieved, in not being under the neceſſity of returning ſuch a verdict as ſhould affect the life of the pannel. He, however, thought, conſidering all the circumſtances of the caſe, they could not think the pannel ſo entirely innocent as to entitle him to an abſolute acquittal; in which caſe, if they were of opinion with him, they would adopt the alternative in the libel by finding the pannel guilty of *culpable homicide*.

Mr James Ferguſſon next addreſſed the jury, on the part of the pannel, in a very ingenious and argumentative ſpeech, in which he took notice of the univerſal practice which had long prevailed in this country, of young people amuſing themſelves with ſuch fire arms as that uſed by the pannel, without any criminal intention whatever, as was the caſe with the pannel at the bar.

The Lord Juſtice Clerk then ſummed up the evidence in a very accurate and candid manner; and, after laying down the law with reſpect to *murder*, *culpable homicide*, and *caſual homicide*, left it entirely with the jury to return ſuch a verdict as their own judgment ſhould dictate to them. His Lordſhip agreed with Mr Solicitor-General, that the pannel could not be found guilty of *murder*. He thought with Mr Solicitor likewiſe, that he was guilty of *culpable homicide*.

The jury returned their verdict, finding, by a plurality of voices, the pannel *not guilty*; upon which he was diſmiſſed from the bar.

THE weather has continued ſtormy during this month; as yet there has been very little froſt. The prices of proviſions have not varyed till towards the end they roſe a little. Herrings are ſtill good and in plenty. The following is the ſtate of the markets in the weſt, which are, in general, always the the higheſt in Scotland:

Glaſgow,
Beef, 6d. per lb. of 22½ oz.
Mutton beſt, 6½d. to 7d. ditto.
Oat-meal, 1s 2d. per peck.
Potatoes by weight at 7½d per peck.

Stirling,
Beef, 6d. per lb. of 22 oz.
Mutton, the ſame.
Potatoes, 8d. per peck.
Oat-meal, 1s 3d. per peck.

Falkirk,
Beef, 5d. per lb. of 22 oz.
Mutton, 4½d. ditto.
Oat-meal, 1s. 3d. per peck.
Potatoes, 6s. 6d. per boll.

Linlithgow,
Beef, 4½d. per lb.
Mutton, the ſame.
Oat-meal, 1s. 3d. per peck.
Potatoes, 8d. per peck.

Ayr,

Beef, 4½d. and 5d. per lb. of 22½ oz.
Mutton, the ſame.
Oat-meal, 1s. 2d. per peck.
Potatoes 7d. per peck.

The price of bread much the ſame as in Edinburgh.

THE Engliſh report for November ſtates, that the ſeed time, though not very favourable, is ſtill prolonged by the increaſed breadth of wheat, which is indiſcreetly ſowing through the iſland; and from the extent to which it is now carrying, we are convinced, that it will prove highly detrimental to the real agricultural intereſts of the kingdom. In every diſtrict through which we have lately paſſed, we obſerve wheat ſowing after wheat, and likewiſe upon weak barley and oat etches; nearly one third of the corn land of this iſland will be thrown out of its natural courſe of huſbandry, and impoveriſhed by this forced cropping. The barleys and oats, already threſhed, riſe abundantly, ſo that there is but little doubt of a ſpeedy decline in their prices. Beans and peaſe likewiſe riſe well. The plants for ſpring ſeed are very promiſing, where they were got in ſoon; particularly the winter tares. The early turnips are much gone off, particularly on ſtrong wet ſoils. Hay is reduced in price by the continual openneſs of the ſeaſon, and the abundance of latter paſturage every where to be had. Lean beaſts of all kinds are ſcarce and high priced, and ſo are prime ſheep. Wool is depreciated a little ſince the laſt month's report, particulary in the finer ſorts, on account of expected importations from Spain.

LISTS.

MARRIAGES.

On the 20th May, at the houſe of the Governor-General in Bengal, Sir Alex. Seton, Bart. to Miſs Lydia Blunt; and the Hon. Charles Andrew Bruce, to Miſs Anna Maria Blunt, both daughters of Sir Charles Blunt, Bart.

Nov. 23. The Rev. James Gardner, miniſter at Tweedſmuir, to Miſs Gray, daughter of the Rev. Mr Gray, miniſter at Broughton.

27. The Rev. Archibald Provan, miniſter of Cadder, to Miſs Jean Graham, daughter of the late John Graham, portioner of Mugdock.

29. At Berryden, Mr Hugh Hutcheon, advocate in Aberdeen, to Miſs Helen Leſlie, daughter of Alexander Leſlie, Eſq;

Lately, at Wakefield, Capt. Allan Cameron, of the 132d regt. to Miſs M. Dundas, daughter of the late Col. Dundas of the Royals, and niece to the Rt Hon. Henry Dundas.

Dec. 4. At Leith, Mr Robert Willis, ſen. merchant, to Miſs Agnes Hay, daughter of Mr John Hay, Edinburgh.

5. The Hon. Henry Sedley, of Nutall, to Miſs Alice Lucy Whiteford, ſecond daughter of Sir John Whiteford, Bart.

7. At Kilmarnock, the Rev. James Steven, miniſter of a Scots congregation in London, to Mrs Barbara Murtree, daughter of the late Rev. J. Ballantine, miniſter of Irvine.

10. At Linlithgow, Capt. Gardner Duncan, of the Ray Fencibles, to Miſs Jean Laurie, only daughter of John Laurie, Eſq;

11. At Edinburgh, Mr Hugh Roſs, writer in Edinburgh, to Miſs Agnes Davidſon, daughter of Robert Davidſon, Eſq; late of Hownam, Roxburghſhire.

12. At London, Sir John Roſe, Recorder of the city of London, to Miſs Fenn, daughter of the late Sheriff Fenn.

24. Mr William Walker, Orchardhead, to Miſs Aliſon Cuningham, daughter of John Cuningham, Eſq; of Balbougie, Advocate.

28. At Glaſgow, Mr William Jack, manufacturer, to Miſs Marianne Rogers, daughter of Mr James Rogers, manufacturer, Glaſgow.

— At Glaſgow, Mr James Gentle, writer in Edinburgh, to Miſs Margaret Briſbane, daughter of Mr Alexander Briſbane, Supervifor of Exciſe, Glaſgow.

— At Edinburgh, John Bedley, Eſq; to Miſs Baker, daughter of J. P. Baker, Eſq; of Grove Place, in the iſland of Jamaica, Counſellor at Law.

In the Eaſt Indies, Lieut. Col. Younge, of the cavalry, to Miſs Davidſon, daughter of the late Alexander Davidſon, Eſq.—Major Stevenſon, of the cavalry, to Miſs Weſt.—Lieut. Bagſhaw, to Miſs Hope.—Lieut. Calcraft, Judge Advocate General, to Miſs Bremer.

BIRTHS.

Dec. 3. At Edinburgh, Mrs Haldane, a daughter.

Lady Petre, a daughter.

8. Mrs Bruce of Kennet, a ſon.

11. At Kimbolton, the Ducheſs of Mancheſter, a daughter.

15. Mrs Cruickſhank of Stracathro, a daughter.

19. At Newbyth Houſe, Mrs Baird of Newbyth, a ſon.

26. Mrs Ramſay, younger of Barnton, a daughter.

— At Murthly, Mrs Stuart of Grandtully, a ſon.

28. Mrs Erſkine younger of Mar, a ſon.

DEATHS.

In the Eaſt Indies, at Trichinopoly, Edward Stewart, Eſq; ſurgeon in the Honourable Company's ſervice; Capt. Hay, of his Majeſty's 70th regt.; Major Shaw.—At Berampore, Lieut.

Lieut. Reid, Barrack-maſter.—At Cananore, Lieut. J. I. Jackſon, of the 2d regt. of Bombay European infantry.—At Calicut, Capt. Foreſter, of the 11th battalion of Bombay native infantry.

Edward Seton and Michael Seton, in the Eaſt India Company's ſervice, the 7th and 8th ſons of the late Mr Daniel Seton, merchant in Edinburgh.

At Jamaica, George Weir, M. D. Apothecary to the forces.

At Maſulipatam, Colonel Charles Fraſer, in command of the northern diviſion of the army.

At St Vincent's, Lieut. Col. John Ritchie, of the 60th regt. of foot.

In Upper Canada, Richard Tickle, Eſq;

At Aux Cayes, St Domingo, Duncan Campbell, Eſq. of Knapdale, in the iſland of Jamaica.

At St Domingo, Lieut. R. Mackenzie, of the royal artillery.

At Martinique, Lieut. Robert Stewart, of the 61ſt regt. ſon of James Stewart of Urrard, Eſq; Perthſhire.

In October laſt, the Rev. Mr Matthew Henderſon, miniſter of the Aſſociate Congregation of Chartiers and Buffaloe, near Pittſburgh, Penſylvania. He was attending the cutting down of a tree on his eſtate, and by ſtanding too near it when falling, he was cruſhed to death by one of its branches. He was a native of Kinroſsſhire.

Lately, at Oxford, Lady Peſhall, in the 75th year of her age. For the laſt two years of her life, ſhe never ſlept, nor had ſhe the leaſt inclination to repoſe.

Lately, on their paſſage from Ireland to the iſle of Man, Samuel Falknor, Eſq; and his nephew Wm Montgomery, Eſq. They were both unfortunately drowned.

Nov. 18. Major Charles Ker, military commander of hoſpitals in the Leeward Iſlands, and third ſon of the late Alexander Ker of Blackſhiel. And ſame day, Lieut. James Ker of the 40th regt. They were both on board the Venus tranſport, bound to the Weſt Indies, which ſhip was wrecked on Portland beach, and they were unfortunately drowned.

25. At Dublin, James Cory, Eſq; Secretary to the Linen Board, and Clerk of the journals to the Iriſh Houſe of Commons.

26. At his houſe in Greenock, Robert Lee, Eſq:

— At Aberdeen, Adam Duff, Eſq; formerly provoſt of that burgh.

28. At Ormiſton Lodge, the Hon. Charles Barclay Maitland.

29. At Edinburgh, Mr Sharp, late of the iſland of Jamaica.

— At Dublin, Lieut. Col. Trotter, of the 113th regt.

30. William Gibſon, Eſq; of Fithie, near Montroſe, in the 84th year of his age.

Dec. 2. At Haddington, the Rev. Dr George Barclay of Middleton, in the 64th year of his age, and 36th of his miniſtry.

— At Springbank, in the iſland of Arran, Neil Shanon, Eſq; of Levenſhaw.

6. At Mount Pleaſant, near Edinburgh, Miſs Elizabeth Lockhart, only daughter of Mr Walter Lockhart, writer in Edinburgh.

7. At Inverneſs, Capt. Richard Rutherford of the royal navy.

— At Copenhagen, the Princeſs Louiſa, daughter of the Hereditary Prince of Denmark.

8. At Nuthill, in Fife, Capt. Wm Bett of the royal navy.

9. At Leith, Mr John Haddaway, ſenior, merchant.

10. At Alva, John Johnſtone, Eſq; of Alva.

— At Banff, James Shand, Eſq; of Craigelly, late provoſt of that burgh, in the 54th year of his age.

— Dr Garrow. He was interred at Hadley, near Barnet, attended to the grave, and ſincerely mourned by an immenſe concourſe of his friends and neighbours, by all of whom his private and profeſſional worth had long made him highly beloved and eſteemed. In his character were diſplayed, as occaſion required, alike eminent degrees of fortitude and humanity. His benevolence was general and diffuſive, without any way obſtructing the moſt exemplary exerciſe of natural affection; and although ſeparated, by many years abſence, from his friends and connections in this part of the country, his memory cannot fail to be very long gratefully cheriſhed and reſpected by them.

Natus in fratres animi paterni,
Illum aget penna metuente ſolvi
Fama ſuperſtes.

12. At Glaſgow, Miſs Elizabeth Robertſon, daughter of Mr Patrick Robertſon, writer there.

— At Leith Terrace, Mr James Dickſon, nurſery and ſeedſman.

— Peter Garrick, Eſq; in the 85th year of his age, brother of the late David Garrick, Eſq;

13. At Bruntiſland, Miſs Kennedy of Baloney.

— At Banff, James Donaldſon, Eſq; of Kinnairdie.

14. Miſs Ann Murray, niece to the late Wm Murray, Eſq; of Polmaiſe.

— At Deal, in the 80th year of his age, Rear-Admiral John Bray.

17. Capt. Lowrie Leith, of the Princeſs of Wales', or Aberdeenſhire fencible regiment.

— At Aberdeen, Miſs Margaret Forbes, daughter of the Rev. Mr Forbes, miniſter of Slains.

18. At the manſion houſe of Delbury, in the county of Salop, Mrs Cornewall, Lady of the Rev. Dr Cornewall, Dean of Canterbury, and ſiſter to the Marchioneſs of Abercorn.

— At Broughton, Mrs Cockburn, widow of the late Mr John Cockburn, writer in Dunſe.

— At Blinkbonny, near Edinburgh, Mr Robert Cleghorn, baker in Leith.

20. At Edinburgh, Dr Colin Drummond, phyſician in Edinburgh.

20. At Uſan, Archibald Scott, Eſq; of Uſan.

— Rev. John Cooper, miniſter of Glaſs, in the 98th year of his age.

21. At Derby, Miſs Rouet, youngeſt daughter of the late Wm Rouet of Auchendean.

— At Glaſgow, James Home Purves, ſecond ſon of Sir Alex. Purves, Bart.

23. Sir Henry Clinton, K. B. a General of his Majeſty's forces, Governor of Gibraltar, Colonel of the 7th (or Queen's) light dragoons, He went over to Boſton, at the beginning of the American war, as ſecond in command under Gen. Sir William Howe, and ſucceeded that officer as commander in chief. He commanded the army on its retreat from Philadelphia, and was in many of the principal engagements during that unfortunate war.

27. At Glaſgow, Mrs Agnes Alſton, relict of the deceaſed James Morton, Eſq; merchant in Glaſgow.

Rt Hon. the Earl of Dorcheſter. He is ſucceeded by his ſon Lord Milton, M. P. late Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland.

— At Inverkip, Janet Lyon, in the 98th year of her age.

28. At Aberdour, Fifeſhire, Miſs Jeſs Liſton, third daughter of the Rev. Mr Liſton.

— At Bridgend of Dumfries, Charles Macdonald, aged 100 years.

— At London, the Hon. Mrs Murray, wife of Admiral Murray, M. P. and daughter of Lord King.

29. At Glaſgow, Mr John Young, merchant in Glaſgow.

— At Edinburgh, Thomas Wilkinſon of Barrowhill.

PREFERMENTS.

Lady Daſhwood to be Governeſs of the Nurſery at Carleton Houſe.

Admiral Young to be a Lord of the Admiralty, vice Sir Charles Middleton.

Stephen Sharp, Eſq; to be Conſul General at St Peterſburg.

Lieut Gen. Charles O'Hara, to be Governor of Gibraltar, vice Sir Henry Clinton deceaſed.

George Auſt, Eſq; to be Muſter-maſter General of all his Majeſty's forces in Great Britain; and likewiſe ſecretary and Regiſter of the Royal Hoſpital at Chelſea.

The Duke of Montroſe to be Preſident; Alex. Fergufſon, Eſq; Sir John Sinclair, Bart. Gilbert Innes, Eſq; Rt Graham, Eſq; and Tho. Hller, Eſq; to be Vice-Preſidents of the Antiquarian Society of Scotland.

Dr Nathaniel Spens Preſident; and Dr James Hamilton, Vice-Preſident, of the Royal College of Phyſicians.

Meſſrs Wm Webb, Wm Woolcombe, John Reid, and Robert Cape, to be Preſidents of the Royal Medical Society.

Meſſrs Henry Nibbs, Wm Webb, James Bell, and J. A. Murray, to be Preſidents of the Natural Hiſtory Society.

PROMOTIONS.

His Majeſty has been pleaſed to appoint Major Gen. his Highneſs Prince William of Glouceſter, from the late 113th, to be Colonel of 6th foot, vice Sir Ralph Abercromby, removed to 7th drag. guards.

Colonel John More, of the 51ſt foot, to be Brigadier General to the forces ſerving in the Weſt Indies.

7th drag. guards. Major Gen. Sir Ralph Abercromby, K. B. from the 6th foot, vice Sir Charles Grey, removed to the 10th light dragoons.

2d drag. General the Earl of Eglintoun, from the 51ſt foot, to be Colonel, vice Johnſton, deceaſed.

7th drag. Major Gen. David Dundas, from the 22d foot, to be Colonel, vice Gen. Sir Henry Clinton, deceaſed.

11th light drag. Major J. Wall Childers to be Lieutenant Colonel, by purchaſe, vice Hart, who retires. Capt. George Lyon to be Major, by purchaſe, vice Childers.

10th light drag. Lieut. Gen. Sir Charles Grey, K. B. from 7th drag. guards, to be Colonel, vice Sandford, deceaſed.

21ſt light drag. Major S. Wood, from the 116th, to be Major, vice Pleydell, who retires on the half-pay of the 115th.

A regt. of cavalry. Arthur Henry Irwine, Eſq; to be Lieutenant Colonel Commandant, with temporary rank in the army. Captain Henry Johnſtone, from the 2d dragoons, to be Major; with permanent rank in the army. Baron Frederick Joſſa to be Major, with temporary rank in the army.

Coldſtream regt. of foot guards. Major Gen. Thomas Sloughter Stanwix to be Lieutenant Colonel, vice Martin, promoted to the command of the 51ſt foot. Major Gen. William Morſhead to be firſt Major, vice Stanwix; and Col. Edward Morriſon to be ſecond Major, vice Morſhead. Lieut. Col. Beaumont Hotham to be Captain of a company, vice Morriſon. Capt. Arthur Brice to be Captain Lieutenant and Lieutenant Colonel, vice Hotham.

3d foot guards. Lieut. Col. Richard Fleming, from the 129th foot, to be Captain of a company, vice Lord Charles Fitzroy, who retires upon the half-pay of the 129th foot. Capt. Richard Warren to be Captain of a company, by purchaſe, vice Fleming, who retires.

10th foot. Major John Wemyſs to be Lieutenant Colonel, without purchaſe, vice Maclachlan, who retires. Capt. Richard Quarrell to be Major, by purchaſe, vice Wemyſs.

19th foot. Capt. John Wauchope to be Major.

22d foot. Major Gen. William Groſbie, from the 89th, to be Colonel, vice Dundas, promoted to the command of the 7th light dragoons.

26th foot. Capt. Thomas Watts to be Major.

27th foot. Major James Drummond, from the

the 81ſt, to be Lieutenant Colonel, by purchaſe, vice Barker, who retires.

29th foot. Capt. E. D. Payne to be Major.

30th foot. Brevet Major —— Clinton, from the 1ſt foot guards, to be Major. Capt. William Lockhart to be Major, without purchaſe, vice Clinton, promoted.

36th foot. Brevet Lieut. Col. Henry Knox to be Lieutenant Colonel. Brevet Major Andrew Wight to be Major, vice Knox. Lieut. Col. J. Hartley, from the 75th, to be Lieutenant Colonel, vice M'Dowall, who exchanges.

38th foot. Lieut. Col. —— Nightingale, from the 92d, to be Lieutenant Colonel, vice Pitcairn, who exchanges.

41ſt foot. Capt. John Grey to be Major, by purchaſe, vice Thomas, promoted.

45th foot. Major Edward E. Coleman, from the 93d, to be Major, vice Innes, promoted in Col. Nicoll's regiment.

51ſt foot. Major Gen. A. G. Martin, from the Coldſtream guards, to be Colonel, vice the Earl of Eglintoun, removed to the 2d dragoons.

52d foot. Brevet Lieut. Col. George Brodie to be Lieutenant Colonel. Brevet Major William Monſon to be Major, vice Brodie. Brevet Lieut. Col. A. Dirom to be Major.

53d foot. Major —— Braban, from the 131ſt, to be Major, vice Boyle, who retires on the half-pay of the 131ſt.

60th foot. Brevet Major Robert Lethbridge to be Major, vice Ecuyer, deceaſed.

61ſt foot. Major James Taylor to be Lieutenant Colonel, by purchaſe, vice Owen, who retires. Brevet Major John S. Saunders to be Major, vice Taylor.

66th foot. Major H. Clinton, from the 30th foot, to be Lieutenant Colonel, without purchaſe, vice Oakes, removed.

71ſt foot. Brevet Lieut. Col. S. P. Dalrymple to be Lieutenant Colonel. Brevet Major John Lindſay to be Major, vice Dalrymple. Brevet Major James Robertſon to be Major.

72d foot. Brevet Lieut. Col. Hugh Fraſer to be Lieutenant Colonel. Brevet Major Glendoning to be Major, vice Fraſer. Brevet Major George C. Braithwaite to be Major.

73d foot. Brevet Lieut. Col. James Spens to be Lieutenant Colonel. Brevet Lieut. Col. George St John to be Major, vice Spens. Brevet Major B. G. Barbutt to be Major.

74th foot. Major Robert Shaw to be Lieutenant Colonel. Brevet Major Alexander Campbell to be Major, vice Shaw. Brevet Major William Wallace to be Major.

75th foot. Lieut. Col. H. M'Dowall, from the 36th, to be Lieutenant Colonel, vice Hartly, who exchanges. Brevet Lieut. Col. George Hart to be Lieutenant Colonel. Brevet Major Alexander Cumine to be Major, vice Hart. Brevet Lieut. Col. Samuel Auchmuty to be Major.

76th foot. Major Alex. Roſs to be Lieutenant Colonel. Brevet Major Edward Muſgrave to be Major, vice Roſs. Capt. Kenneth M'Rae to be Major.

77th foot. Major Bulſtrode Whitelocke to be Lieutenant Colonel. Brevet Major James Dunlop to be Major, vice Whitelocke. Brevet Lieut. Col. John Montreſor to be Major.

79th foot. Capt. William Eden, from the 55th foot, to be Major, by purchaſe, vice M'Lean, promoted.

81ſt foot, Lieut. Col. John Hamilton, from Lieut. Col. Blair's regiment, to be Lieutenant Colonel, vice Manninghame, deceaſed.

82d foot, 2d bat. Major F. G. Maclean, from the 79th, to be Lieutenant Colonel, by purchaſe, vice Barry, who retires.

83d foot. Major Gen. James Balfour, from the 77th, to be Colonel, vice Fitch, deceaſed.

89th foot. Major General Andrew Gordon, from the 26th foot, to be Colonel, vice Croſbie, appointed to the command of the 22d foot.

93d foot. Lieut. Col. Wm Gammell, from the 113th, to be Lieutenant Colonel, vice Freeman, removed to the 16th foot.

94th foot. Capt. —— Jackſon to be Major, by purchaſe, vice Cuffans, who retires.

97th foot. Major Patrick Stuart to be Lieutenant Colonel, by purchaſe, vice Bain, who retires. Capt. —— Scroggs, from the 39th foot, to be Major, vice Stuart. Capt. Henry Harcourt, from the royal regiment of horſe guards, to be Major, by purchaſe, vice Grant, who retires.

106th foot. Capt. the Hon. Charles William Stewart, from the 108th, to be Major, vice Williams, reſigned.

SEQUESTRATIONS.

Nov. 28. John Elſton, late diſtiller at Bridge of Don.

Dec. 6. Davie and Gardner, merchants, Edinburgh.

12. John Leighton, merchant, Leith.

21. John Paton of Sawerſton, dealer in cattle.

22. James Davie, vintner in Polgavie.

26. Henry Cowan, cattle-dealer in Ayr.

Prices of Grain at Haddington, Dec. 31.

Wheat, 48s. Barley, 25s. Oats, 21s Peaſe, 19s. Beans, 18s.

Edinburgh, Dec. 30. Oat-meal, 1s. 4½d. Bear-meal, 1s. 2d. Peaſe-meal, 1s.

PRICES OF STOCKS.

Dec. 11.	Dec. 31.
Bank Stock 176	69 11/24
3 per cent. red. 70 1/8	69 5/8 opg.
3 per cent. conſ. 70 3/4	54 7/8
4 per cent. conſ. 87 1/8 86 3/4	ſhut
India Stock ſhut 213¼ opg.	0s. diſ.
India Bonds ——	14l. 12s.
Lottery Tickets 14l. 12s.	
Iriſh ditto 11l. 5s.	

APPENDIX 1795.

CONTENTS.

	Pag.
State of the Weather for 1795	821
Meteorogical Obſervations	822
Account of the Eruption of Mount Veſuvius, *concluded*	824
Account of Mad. du Barre, *concluded*	828
Characteriſtical Sketches of Eminent Britons—James VI.	830
Lord Granville	831
Mr J. Elwes	832
General Character of the Germans	835
Letter from a Muſician to his Miſtreſs	836
On the means of Preventing Caterpillars on Fruit Trees	837
The Bagpiper: A Fragment	838
Hiſtory of the French Revolutionary Tribunal	838
Naval Advantages of Great Britain	840
Reflections on the Concluſion of the Year	842
Monſieur Tonſon: A Humorous Tale	844
A Madagaſcar Song	846

STATE PAPERS.

Treaty of Defenſive Alliance between his Britannic Majeſty and the Emperor of Germany	855
Treaty of Defenſive Alliance between his Britannic Majeſty and the Empreſs of Ruſſia	857
Heads of a bill, intituled, An act for the ſafety and preſervation of his Majeſty's perſon and government, againſt treaſonable and ſeditious practices and attempts	860
Abſtract of the Act for the more effectually preventing ſeditious meetings and aſſemblies	861
Subſtance of the Decree of Ratification of the Imperial Court, reſpecting peace with France	866
Note of the Count de Bernſtorff, miniſter of State of his Daniſh Majeſty	867
Anſwer of the Committee of Public Safety of France to the Note of M. de Bernſtorff.	867
NEW PUBLICATIONS.	868

POETRY.

Sonnet I.	869
Sonnet II.	869
Bonny Kitty, by *Mr Dibdin*	869
Ad Gulielmum Cruickſhank Epiſtola	869
Diploma Gulielmi Sutherlandi	870

BRITISH PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Sedition Bill	871
Treaſon Bill	872
Report of the Select Committee on Reeves' pamphlet	872
The Budget	873
Meſſages from his Majeſty	878
On the King's Meſſage	878

HOUSE OF LORDS.

On Reeves' pamphlet	881
Foreign Troops	882
High Price of Corn	882

MONTHLY REGISTER.

French Republic	883

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

Situation of Affairs in Europe	883—5

LONDON.

Dreadful fire at Plymouth	885
Meeting of the Whig Club	886
Accounts from Sierra Leone	886
General Bill of Mortality	886

DUBLIN.

A meeting of the Freemen agree to addreſs his Majeſty	887
Commiſſion Intelligence	887
General Index to the Volume	888—96

GENERAL STATE OF THE WEATHER FOR 1795.

THE cold of January was remarkable for its ſeverity; on an average, it was 5 degrees below the freezing point. There was occaſionally fogs and miſt, and frequent ſhowers of ſnow, moſtly from the eaſt. February was more moderate towards the middle of the month; and on the 16th, a thaw commenced, but laſted only a day or two. The thermometer varied much, but the average was nearly 28°. March 3d, a ſenſible change to freſh, which continued during the month, though the air felt very cold from the melting of the ſnow, which was ſtill ſeen all the month. The ſtorm laſted 62 days, with the exception of 6 days of thaw,

thaw. April commenced with cold East winds, and not a bud to be seen on the 10th. A thunder storm on the 19th sensibly changed the air, and made it milder. May had some pretty warm weather, and vegetation pushed forwards with remarkable vigour; though the east wind prevailed, with some nipping frosts. June was little milder than May, the east wind still prevalent, and no hay harvest. July, on the whole, pleasant and moderate, but a good deal of rain fell. August was more rainy than common, which retarded the ripening of the corn. A more remarkable September scarcely remembered, dry and fine. October was stormy and wet, the corns in the field suffered much. November and December very similar, with little frost, but very stormy, which did much damage in the country, and at sea.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

CONCLUDED FROM P. 754.

WE know, that during earthquakes and volcanic eruptions, inflammable airs are extricated from the bowels of the earth. At such periods, though happening at seasons when lightning is in nowise unfrequent, yet lightning is here pretty common, and the air at all times phlogisticated. The account given of the late earthquake in Calabria bears, that "during the earthquake, the people were enveloped in the thickest darkness, saw nothing but lightning, heard nothing but thunder, darting destruction and death amidst the tempests, through the clouds."

Nay, the thick phlogisticated air, extricated during this earthquake, filled all the European atmosphere; and which was soon followed by the greatest tempests of thunder and lightning ever known. And perhaps even the meteor seen in August 1783 may have been owing to the same cause.

Meteors have in general been accounted to be electric phenomena, though with what propriety I really cannot discover. The meteor of August 1783 was, in its course from N. W. to S. E. seen in the Orkneys, over all Britain, and as far as Dijon in France; and as it was not seen to originate above the Orkneys, it is presumable it came from a greater distance, perhaps even from Iceland, during the dreadful eruptions there; and we may conjecture, that its direct course was at the least a thousand miles. Now, how can we reconcile such a prodigious track, and such striking distances observed in electrical experiments, or in common lightning.

It was no doubt at a great distance from the earth; and it is probable, from its being seen in Ireland, to the west of its course, and in Holland, to the east, and in these places too almost vertical, that its height was upwards of 300 miles; yet allowing it was 400 miles, still it was nearer the earth at the Orkneys, as to striking distance, than it was from thence to the atmosphere over Dijon, in France. Besides, if the atmosphere above Dijon had been then in a *minus* state, it could have been more easily supplied with the electric fluid from the neighbourhood. As at this period thunder storms were very frequent throughout France. Indeed, we can by no means account for this phenomenon upon the common principles of electricity. Let us see, however, if we can account for it upon the principle of its being a huge congeries of inflammable air, which we know, from its levity, will ascend to great heights.

The bulk of this mass, as may be guessed from the apparent magnitude of the ignited part, which alone could be visible here, and its distance from the earth, as above observed, might be in circumference about 200 miles. Now, we know that inflammable air, by itself, or without mixture with common air, will, when ignited, burn slowly, without any explosion. If this mass had, therefore, been lower down in the atmosphere, it would have been more liable to be mixed with common air; and so might have been drawn off in lightning, as hinted at above, or have exploded like the meteor, observed by Dr Halley, whose height he calculated to be 75½ miles, and whose explosion was heard over most of Britain. But the one ques-

tion

tion being a great deal higher, and of conſequence leſs mixed with common air, it would not therefore explode, but burn more ſlowly, like inflammable air in a bladder, or a phial.

We cannot ſay, however, that, even at this great height, the air was nearly a vacuum. Snow and hail are ſupported in the air above, and fall upon the tops of the higheſt hills on the globe; and as the higher we go, we find the air the colder, and as cold makes air denſe, we may conclude, that the air, at the height in which the meteor moved, though different in its nature from ours, might even have ſome denſity. If, therefore, we allow the air, at this height, to have ſome little denſity, it will be ſufficient to account for the meteor on the footing of its being a huge, oblong, or conical body, of inflammable gas, floating in the air horizontally, with its extremities pointing N. W. and S. E. and accidentally ignited on the N. W. extremity of it, and its courſe thereby impelled to the S. E. upon the ſame principle with that of the flight of a ſky-rocket.

Dr Deſaguliers, in his "Theory of the Flight of a Rocket," obſerves, that if the rocket had no vent at the choak, and was ſet on fire in the conical bore, the conſequence would be, that the rocket would burſt in the weakeſt place; or, if all its parts were equally ſtrong, the rocket would burn out immoveable: The force of the flame being equable, ſuppoſe its action downwards or upwards, ſufficient to lift forty pounds, as theſe forces are equal, but their directions contrary, they will deſtroy each other's action. But then, if the rocket is opened at the choak, by this means the action of the flame downwards is taken away, and there remains a force equal to forty pounds acting upwards, and ſo carrying up the rocket.

Now, upon this theory, it will not be difficult to account for the flight of the meteor, or congeries of inflammable air. If this conical maſs had floated in a perpendicular direction, with one extremity next the earth, and the other upright, and had been ignited at the lower end or choak, it would have been impelled upwards, like a rocket. If ignited at the upper extremity, its courſe would have been downwards, though, from the levity of inflammable air, we may venture to doubt of its taking this direction. But upon the above theory, if its poſition had been with its extremities, to the N. W. and S. E. and ignited at the N. W. extremity, or its choak, it is pretty clear, that it would have been impelled in the ſame direction it took, till exhauſted and burned out; and the rarity of the air at its height, would likewiſe make its flight more expeditious. It alſo certainly aids this conjecture very much, when it is recollected, that the meteor evidently burned in its courſe, like a rocket; and even at times dropped ſome of its ignious matter in exact reſemblance to one*. Indeed *falling ſtars*, which are nothing but diſtant meteors, are uniformly noticed to burn leſs and leſs, till entirely exhauſted; which is a great proof, that they are not electrical, but inflammable phenomena, *i. e.* inflamed vapour.

Meteors have alſo been ſeen, very low in the atmoſphere, to burn out without mixion with common air, and of conſequence without exploſion; and others again have exploded, like a mixture of common and inflammable air. On the 31ſt March 1761, during the earthquakes at Theſſalonica, a congeries of inflammable vapour appeared, which ſeems to prove what has been advanced, as to the cauſes of meteors and of lightning. An Engliſh merchant at that place, after giving an account of the earthquakes, adds, Annual Regiſter 1760, "We were terribly alarmed by a prodigious ball of fire, which roſe from the earth in the S. E. part of the city, and directed its courſe horizontally towards the weſt; when, entering a dark black cloud, it burſt with a prodigious loud noiſe, attend-

* The ſame was the caſe with the meteor obſerved at Edinburgh, on 26th December 1758. "It was of a conic form, and in appearance about four or five inches diameter at the baſe; and *as it went along, numbers of ſparks fell from it, like thoſe of a rocket*, when its force is ſpent." *Ann. Regiſter* 1758.

ed with thunder, and flashes of fire." But it is impossible to quote and argue upon all the examples to be found in history, respecting the appearances of meteors and lightning, that had no seeming relation to electricity. In the public papers, and chronicles of the Annual Register, are many such. Instances of lightning are therein often noticed, that bore evidently all the appearances of ignited vapour, lasting in a continued blaze, from ½ to 5 minutes; and which are acknowledged to be irreconcileable to any known electric phenomena.

It would have exceeded the bounds of a paper of this kind, to have entered fully into the subject. I have, however, hazarded conjectures upon mysterious points, and if they should tend to stir up abler hands to follow me, and set me right, I shall not grudge my labour; for I have by no means in view to set up a new theory: I have been only led, from Cavallo's repeated observations, and some trifling ones of my own, to argue, as it were, *ex dilemma*, that some other agent than mere electricity is concerned in the formation of lightning; as I could by no means conceive, why thunder and lightning should be confined to particular spots, and to summer months, while the electric fluid arises from the earth at all times, and in all places, though much more copiously in frosty and foggy weather, when lightning is unknown, than in warm weather, when it is most frequent.

I cannot take leave of this subject, however, without hinting the propriety of keeping an exact electric journal, with an electrometer, such as described by Cavallo, as a very proper appendage to the meteorological journal: and which might ultimately tend to throw some light upon the subject of this paper.

I beg here also to add a quotation from Mr Thomas Henry's preface to his translation of Mr Lavoiser's last Essays, 1783, as tending, in some measure, to illustrate the hints I have given in this paper. Mr Henry having mentioned a communication by Dr Priestly to Dr Percival, says, the Doctor adds, that "he had also proved more unexceptionably than before, that *the electric matter contains phlogiston*, by making it pass through the air, confined by the acids in a syphon. "When," says he, "I use the dephlogisticated marine acid, the air is diminished by the process, and dephlogisticated. If I use the phosphoric acid, or the phlogisticated alkali, the air is first diminished, and then increased, by an addition of inflammable air. If I use the vitriolic or the nitrous acid, there is a production of diphlogisticated air, faster than the electricity can injure it." Now, from whence can this dephlogisticated air proceed, *but from a decomposition of the acids, by the phlogiston of the electric matter, in which the pure air is separated, while the phlogiston, combining with the remaining part, or basis of this acid, forms a sulphur*

ACCOUNT OF THE ERUPTION OF MOUNT VESUVIUS.

CONCLUDED FROM PAGE 764.

THE outside of every stone that has been found, and has been ascertained to have fallen from the cloud near Sienna, is evidently fresh vitrified, and is black, having every sign of having passed through an extreme heat; when broken, the inside is of a light-grey colour, mixed with black spots, and some shining particles, which the learned here have decided to be pyrites, and therefore it cannot be a lava, or they would have been decomposed. Stones of the same nature, at least as far as the eye can judge of them, are frequently found on Mount Vesuvius: and when I was on the mountain lately, I searched for such stones near the new mouths, but as the soil round them has been covered with a thick bed of fine ashes, whatever was thrown up, during the force of the eruption, lies buried under these ashes. Should we find similar stones, with the petrified coat on them, on Mount Vesuvius, as I told Lord Bristol in my answer to his letter, the question would be decided in favour of Vesuvius; unless it could be proved, that there had been, about the time of the fall of these stones in the Siennese territory, some nearer opening of the earth, attended with an emission

emission of volcanic matter, which might very well be, as the mountain of Radicofani, within fifty miles of Sienna, is certainly volcanic. I mentioned to his Lordship another idea that struck me: As we have proofs, during the late eruption, of a quantity of ashes of Vesuvius, having been carried to a greater distance than where the stones fell in the Siennese territory, and mixing with a stormy cloud, have been collected together just as hail-stones are into lumps of ice, in which shape they fall; and might not the exterior vitrification of those lumps of accumulated and hardened volcanic matter, have been occasioned by the action of the electrical fluid on them? The celebrated Father Ambrogio Soldani, professor of mathematics in the university of Sienna, is printing there his dissertation upon this extraordinary phænomenon; wherein, as I have been assured, he has decided, that those stones were generated in the air, independently of volcanic assistance.

Until after the 7th of July, when the last cloud broke over Vesuvius, and formed a tremendous torrent of mud, which took its course across the great road between Torre del Greco and the Torre dell' Annunziata, and destroyed many vineyards, the late eruption could not be said to have finished, although the force of it was over the 22d of June, since which time the crater has been usually visible. The power of attraction in mountains is well known; but whether the attractive power of a volcanic mountain be greater than that of any other mountain, is a question: all I can say is, that during this last eruption, every watery cloud has been evidently attracted by Vesuvius, and the sudden dissolution of those clouds has left such marks of their destructive power, on the face of of the country, all round the basis of the volcano, as will not soon be erased. Since the mouth of Vesuvius has been enlarged, I have seen a great cloud passing over it, and which not only was attracted, but was sucked in, and disappeared in a moment.

After every violent eruption of Mount Vesuvius, we read of damage done by a mephitic vapour, which coming from under the ancient lavas, insinuates itself into low places, such as the cellars and wells of the houses, situate at the foot of the volcano. After the eruption of 1767, I remember, that there were several instances, as in this, of people going into their cellars at Portici, and other parts of that neighbourhood having been struck down by this vapour, and who would have expired if they had not been hastily removed. These occasional vapours, and which are called here *mofete*, are of the same quality as that permanent one in the Grotta del Cane, near the lake of Agnano, and which has been proved to be chiefly fixed air. The vapours, that in the volcanic language of this country are called *fumaroli*, are of another nature, and issue from spots all over the fresh and hot lavas, while they are cooling; they are sulphureous and suffocating, so much so, that often the birds that are flying over them, are overpowered, and fall down dead; of which we have had many examples during this eruption, particularly of woodpigeons, that have been found dead on the lava. These vapours deposit a crust of sulphur, or salts, particularly of sal ammoniac, on the scoriæ of the lava through which they pass; and the small crystals of which they are composed, are often tinged with a deep or pale yellow, with a bright red like cinnabar, and sometimes with green, or an azure blue. Since the late eruption, many pieces of the scoriæ of the fresh lava have been found, powdered with a lucid substance, exactly like the brightest steel or iron filings.

The first appearance of the *mofete*, after the late eruption, was on the 17th of June, when a peasant going with an ass to his vineyard, a little above the village of Resina, in a narrow hollow way, the ass dropped down, and seemed to be expiring; the peasant was soon sensible of the mephitic vapour himself, and well knowing its fatal effects, dragged the animal out of its influence, and it soon recovered. From that time these vapours have greatly encreased, and extended themselves. There are to this day many cellars and wells, all the way from Portici to Torre dell' Annunziata, greatly affected by them. This heavy vapour when exposed to the open air, does not

riſe much more than a foot above the ſurface of the earth, but when it gets into a confined place, like a cellar or well, it riſes and fills them as any other fluid would do; having filled a well, it riſes above it about a foot high, and then bending over, falls to the earth, on which it ſpreads, always preſerving its uſual level. Wherever this vapour iſſues, a wavering in the air is perceptible, like that which is produced by the burning of charcoal; and when it iſſues from a fiſſure near any plants or vegetables, the leaves of thoſe plants are ſeen to move, as if they were agitated by a gentle wind. It is extraordinary, that although there does not appear to be any poiſonous quality in this vapour, which in every reſpect reſembles fixed air, it ſhould prove ſo very fatal to the vineyards, ſome thouſand acres of which have been deſtroyed by it ſince the late eruption; when it penetrates to the roots of the vines, it dries them up, and kills the plant. A peaſant in the neighbourhood of Reſina having ſuffered by the *moſete*, which deſtroyed his vineyards in the year 1767, and having obſerved then, that the vapour followed the laws of all fluids, made a narrow deep ditch all round his vineyard, which communicated with ancient lavas, and alſo to a deep cavern under one of them; the conſequence of his well reaſoned operation has been, that although ſurrounded at preſent by theſe noxious vapours, and which lie conſtantly at the bottom of his ditch, they have never entered his vineyard, and his vines are now in a flouriſhing ſtate, while thoſe of his neighbours are periſhing. Upward of thirteen hundred hares, and many pheaſants, and partridges, overtaken by this vapour, have been found dead, within his Sicilian Majeſty's reſerved chaſes, in the neighbourhood of Veſuvius; and alſo many domeſtic cats, who, in their purſuit after this game, fell victims to the *moſete*. A few days ago, a ſhoal of fiſh, of ſeveral hundred weight, having been obſerved by ſome fiſhermen at Reſina, in great agitation on the ſurface of the ſea, near ſome rocks of an ancient lava that had run into the ſea, they ſurrounded them with their nets, and took them all with eaſe, and afterwards diſcovered that they had been ſtunned by the mephitic vapour, which at that time iſſued forcibly from underneath the ancient lava into the ſea. I have been aſſured by many fiſhermen, that during the force of the late eruption the fiſh had totally abandoned the coaſt from Portici to the Torre dell' Annunziata, and that they could not take one in their nets nearer the ſhore than two miles. The divers there, who fiſh for the *ancini* (which we call ſea-eggs) and other ſhell-fiſh, likewiſe told me, that for the ſpace of a mile from that ſhore, ſince the eruption, they have found all the fiſh dead in their ſhells, as they ſuppoſe either from the heat of the ſand at the bottom of the ſea, or from poiſonous vapours. The divers at Naples complain of their finding alſo many of theſe ſhell fiſh, or as they are called here, in general terms, *frutti di mare*, dead in their ſhells.

I thought that theſe little well atteſted facts might contribute to ſhow the great force of the wonderful chymical operation of nature, that has lately been exhibited here. The *moſete*, or fixed air vapours, muſt certainly have been generated by the action of the vitriolic acid upon the calcareous earth, as both abound in Veſuvius. The ſublimations, which are viſibly operating by the chymiſtry of nature all along the courſe of the laſt lava that ran from Veſuvius, and particularly in and about the new mouths, that have been formed by the late eruption on the flanks of the volcano, having been analyzed by Signor Domenico Tomaſo, an ingenious chymiſt of Naples, and whoſe experiments, and the reſult of them, are now publiſhed, have been found to be chiefly ſal ammoniac, mixed with a ſmall quantity of the calx of iron: but not to betray my ignorance on this ſubject, and pretending to nothing more than the being an exact ocular obſerver, I refer you to the work itſelf, which accompanies this letter. Many hundred weight of the Veſuvian ſal ammeniac have been collected on the mountain, ſince the late eruption, by the peaſants, and ſold at Naples to the refiners of metals; at firſt it was ſold for about ſixpence a-pound, but, from its abundance, the price is now reduced to half that money; and a much

greater